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THE

CHINESE REPOSITORY.

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 VOL. III. — MARCH, 1835. — No. 11.

ART. I. *The Chinese peasant Hoo Loo: his removal to England; operation performed on him at Guy's hospital; remarks on the operation by Mr. W. Simpson, and by J. M. Titley, M. D.*

IN the account of the Ophthalmic Hospital, which was published in our number for last December, we promised to lay before our readers further particulars concerning the interesting case of Hoo Loo. Attracted by the reports of the success of the infirmary, this poor man came to Macao, and desired to be admitted into it. While there, witnessing the operations performed on others, he requested that an attempt might be made to remove the tumor with which he was afflicted. Accordingly, arrangements were soon made for his passage to England, where, under the care of sir Astley Cooper, bart., the desired operation was undertaken. "Hoo Loo's principal motive for going to England was the hope, that his disease being there removed, he might prove a comfort to his aged mother instead of being, as he was, a burden to her. The poor old woman since his death has subsisted upon a pittance, the interest derived from a small sum which was appropriated to her use by Mr. Colledge, out of money given by a few charitable individuals who took an interest in the poor man's welfare." We have before us a paper with her 'sign manual,' by which it appears that she is still living in Singan, about a hundred miles from Canton. This year, not being able to go to Macao to receive her annuity, she sent the above named paper, that the money might be paid to its bearer. The writing is on a large sheet and was executed by some friend; it consists of only two lines, on each side of which there is an impression of her right hand. The whole is done with red ink, and in a style which cannot easily be counterfeited. 'Sign manuals' executed in this manner, are employed in China chiefly by those who are unable to write, which is the case,

it would appear, with the mother of Hoo Loo.—The remarks and statements which we subjoin are from the *Lancet*. The following paragraph, by the editor of that work, is under date of London, Saturday, April 16th, 1831.

“The account of the operation performed upon the unfortunate Chinese, on Saturday last at Guy’s hospital, will be read with deep and painful anxiety. Without calling in question the manual skill of the operator, we are of opinion that in this proceeding, some very serious errors were committed; First, it was injudicious, nay, particularly unphilosophical, to perform an operation of such vast importance upon a native of the climate of China, so quickly after his arrival in this country, to the atmosphere of which his constitution could in no degree be familiarized; and, secondly, nothing could be more injudicious than to perform such an operation upon a man who had been exposed during several months to the pure and peculiarly invigorating breezes of the ocean, in a theatre, or rather a well, the atmosphere of which must have been rendered unfit for the purposes of respiration by the crowd. These errors when considered in connection with the length of time which poor Hoo Loo was under the tortures of the knife, furnish more than sufficient grounds for the removal of any astonishment which may at first have been entertained as to the unsuccessful issue of the operation. True the ventilation was open, and the crowd around the patient frequently stood aloof, in order that the purest atmosphere which the place could afford should come in contact with him. But notwithstanding these occasional precautions, the depressing influence of the obnoxious atmosphere may in some degree be conjectured, when it is stated that many of the spectators were covered with perspiration, were pale as death, and closely approaching a state of fainting. What then must have been the condition of Hoo Loo, who with bound limbs was compelled to breathe in such a place for a period of two hours, during one hour and forty-four minutes of which he was under the infliction of the knife? It is admitted, generally, that Mr. Key performed the operation with extreme care; and it is said that on the night previous, a considerable time was spent in examining and measuring the parts, in order that the flaps of the integument might neatly approximate after the tumor was removed. But it may be doubted if it were wise to discontinue the use of the knife, while the patient was in a state of syncope; for whether the fainting arose from the loss of blood, or from the shock to the nervous system, the propriety of desisting during those intervals may fairly be questioned. The vital energy is unable to contend against the long continuance of such unusually severe pain. Had the operation of Mr. B. Cooper on Stephen Pollard been less protracted, the result might have been otherwise; and had Mr. Henry Early, when he removed the bones from poor Brady’s ear, in St. Bartholomew’s hospital, instead of the nail for which he was seeking, desisted from his attempts at the expiration of ten or fifteen minutes, the unfortunate child might now have been alive and well. Such protracted operation cannot be too strongly

depreated. We hint not in the remotest sense that Mr. Key made a single incision more than was necessary, or that he performed one cut unscientifically, but we think that the pauses were injudicious, and are decidedly of opinion, that the time and place selected for the operation showed an extraordinary, if not a fatal, want of professional discrimination."—The following is "the account of the operation," noticed above.

"Hoo Loo, a Chinese laborer, was admitted into Luke's ward, Gny's hospital, in the third week of March last, with an extraordinary tumor depending from the lower part of the abdomen, and of a nature and extent hitherto unseen in this country. He had been brought to England from Canton, by his own desire, in an East Indiaman, for the purpose of having this tumor removed at one of the London hospitals, the native surgeons declining to make the attempt, a general disinclination to the performance of serious operations prevailing in the East, where both the climate and the law offer important objections to surgical proceedings which may lead to the loss of human life. The case excited considerable interest, both in and out of the profession, from the first moment of his arrival, and he was visited in the hospital by a great number of persons of all ranks. We have heard that on his voyage to this country, the change of air had such an effect on his constitution, as to occasion a material increase in the tumor. Since his arrival, his appetite, health, and spirits, were extremely good. While in the hospital there appeared nothing to induce the surgeon to order him any medicine. His diet consisted principally of boiled rice, and no restraint was placed on his appetite, which was very great. He was generally considered to have improved in health while in the hospital, though it was difficult to form a decided estimate on this point. He all along contemplated the operation with satisfaction.

"It was generally understood that the operation would be performed on Tuesday last, but so great a crowd of spectators was apprehended, that Saturday, which is a *dies non* in the hospital, was fixed on instead. Notwithstanding this precaution, however, an assemblage, unprecedented in numbers on such an occasion, presented themselves for admission at the operating theatre, which was instantly filled in every part, although none but pupils, and of those only such as could at the moment present their 'hospital tickets,' were admitted. Hundreds of gentlemen were consequently excluded, and it became obvious to the officers of the hospital, that some other room must be selected. Accordingly, sir Astley Cooper entered, and addressing the pupils, said, that in consequence of the crowd, the patient being in a state which would admit of the removal, the operation would take place in the great anatomical theatre. A tremendous rush to that theatre accordingly took place, where accommodation was afforded to 680 persons, and where preparations were immediately made for the patient. In about a quarter of an hour, Hoo Loo entered, accompanied by two nurses and a *posse comitatus*, consisting of various functionaries of the hospital, and in the

course of a few minutes he was secured on the operating table. A short consultation now took place between sir Astley Cooper, Mr. Key, and Mr. Callaway, during which it was finally agreed, that if it were found possible, the genital organs should be preserved. The face of the patient was then covered, and Mr. Key taking his station in front of the tumor, commenced the operation. His object, apparently, was to make three flaps. * * * But a period of time elapsed before the conclusion of the operation which must have far exceeded the anticipation even of the most fearful, and by the time the tumor was entirely separated and the exposed parts were closed over, an hour and forty-four minutes had passed. This tremendous protraction was chiefly occasioned by the intervals which were from time to time allowed the patient for recovery from the fits of exhaustion which supervened. Complete syncope occurred twice, and during the whole of the latter steps of the operation, he was in a state of fainting. The quantity of blood lost was variously estimated by those who assisted, and though certainly not large, it was the operator's own impression that the hemorrhage was the immediate cause of death. It would probably be correct to state the loss at twenty-five ounces, although as few as fourteen, and as many as thirty were named. Of this quantity not more, we should think, than a single ounce was arterial; all the ligatures were quickly applied, and with great dexterity. The number of large veins divided was immense, but only three small arteries, besides the two spermatic, were taken up. Immediately after the removal of the tumor, another fit of syncope—if syncope could be said to be at all incomplete for the half hour—came on, from which the poor fellow did not for a moment rally. No remedies that were directed to overcome this state of collapse had the slightest effect; warmth and friction of the serobiculis cordis, the injection of brandy and water into the stomach, and, ultimately, from suspicion that the loss of blood had been too great, transfusion to the amount of six ounces, taken from the arm of a student—one amongst several who offered to afford blood,—were amongst the means resorted to. The heart's action gradually and perceptibly sunk. The patient did breathe after the operation, but that is as much as can be said. Artificial respiration was subsequently, but vainly attempted.

“The fortitude with which this great operation was approached, and throughout undergone, by Hoo Loo, was, if not unexampled, at all events never exceeded in the annals of surgery. A groan now and then escaped him, and now and then a slight exclamation, and we thought we could trace in his tones a plaintive acknowledgment of the hopelessness of his case. Expressions of regret, too, that he had not rather borne with his affliction than suffered the operation, seemed softly but rapidly to vibrate from his lips as he closed his eyes, firmly set his teeth, and resignedly strung every nerve in obedience to the determination with which he had first submitted to the knife. His character was naturally exceedingly amiable. When occupied in thought, his features assumed an appearance of slight

melancholy, but at other times a very cheerful and good tempered expression of countenance prevailed. The appearance of the features after death was very characteristic of this. Whenever an exhibition of the tumor was desired, he was displeased and somewhat reluctant, seeming to imply by his language, that it was of 'no use' to show it. With the nurses he had become a great favorite, and his death elicited the utmost commiseration, perhaps a few tears, in the ward which he inhabited.

"Hoo Loo was thirty-two years of age, and the tumor had been ten years arriving at its present growth. Its effect upon his frame, and muscles of the abdomen was not particularly oppressive. It of course occasioned a very great strain upon the fore part of the body, and to preserve his balance he was compelled to throw the shoulders backward, and assume the gait of an alderman whose belly preponderates and displaces his centre of gravity. The weight of the tumor was conjectured to be about seventy pounds, but when placed in the scales after its removal, it weighed but fifty-six. His strength was not affected by it. He could take a stout lad in his arms and toss him with ease."

Mr. Simpson, adopting for his motto the words of his 'talented friend,' Armstrong, that—"Modern surgery is a vampire which feasts upon human blood,"—wrote to the editor of the *Lancet* in the following words:—

"Sir, such was the language of my late lamented and talented friend, founded on the accurate observations of an ardent and philanthropic mind; not uttered in the spirit of satire, but flowing from the refined feeling of genius. He alas! has passed from this scene, but his name will survive in the works of his mighty mind, 'for' (to use his emphatic language in speaking of his favorite Sydenham,) 'genius revives even from the tombs, and again breathing and informing, it has an immortality in the respect and admiration of present and succeeding ages;' 'his name will be ranked among those great benefactors of mankind who make times and countries worthy of our remembrance.' We have heard much, Sir, of the *esprit du corps* in our profession; I respect and venerate the sentiment as much as any man, when it is the bond of brotherhood cementing that good feeling which should characterize the members of a liberal and philanthropic profession, impelling them to the advancement of that science which is so intimately blended with the happiness of the human race. But we must not forget the duty we owe to our fellow-creatures, and that the *esprit d'humanite* must be paramount to the *esprit du corps*.

"I have been led to make these remarks, from having read an account of an operation performed at Guy's hospital on an unfortunate Chinese, on Saturday last. It appears that this man was afflicted with an enlargement, or as some have termed it, elephantiasis of the scrotum, which commenced eleven years since, and had been gradually increasing till it had obtained the enormous size of sixty pounds. The ease I believe which bears the nearest affinity to this

is recorded by Delpech, by whom the tumor was removed. The patient recovered from the operation, but died a few weeks after. I feel bound to say that I consider such operations as this unjustifiable; for independent of the hemorrhage, the extent of which no surgeon can foretell, and the shock which the constitution must sustain at the time, in connection with the immense change which takes place in the state of circulation afterwards, is sufficient to preclude any rational hope of recovery. In this case, death was not near at hand, nor was the patient's life rendered wretched and miserable by torment and pains incidental to a malignant disease. When I saw him, his spirits were buoyant, and his health was excellent. I gave it as my opinion (judging from the enormous size and apparent vascularity of the tumor,) to two individuals who were present, that if the operation was performed, death would be inevitable. Let the tortures which a poor creature must undergo whilst experiencing *a living dissection of a tumor, one third the weight of his whole body, lasting upwards of one hour and a half*, be considered for a moment! I trust that nature was more merciful than man, and from the extremity of his sufferings formed a veil of oblivion, which rendered this unfortunate being at least *partially* insensible to his agonies. I think that this operation could neither advance the science of surgery, nor be otherwise beneficial to the human race; that it was neither sanctioned by reason, nor warranted by experience. I have no doubt it was well performed, from my own observation of the skill Mr. Key displayed when I was formerly in the habit of witnessing his operations, and from the celebrity he now enjoys, though at a very early age; and as a surgeon's fame is intimately blended by the public with success in his performances, there can be no doubt it was decided upon with the best intentions.

"But I feel bound to call upon surgeons, generally, to pause ere they attempt such bold and unusual operations; to warn them that the spirit of philanthropy and intelligence is abroad; that such things are no longer confined to the narrow circle of professional, and too often cold-blooded, ratiocination, but are freely canvassed by the 'public,' and that the mighty influence of the public voice will ere long be felt with still greater force in all the departments of knowledge which affect man as a civilized being."

In reply to the foregoing letter, Dr. Titley wrote the following communication, which was published in the *Lancet*, May 7th, 1831.

"I have perused in the last number of the *Lancet*, a communication from Mr. Siapson, in which he censures the late operation on Hoo Loo, as being neither sanctioned by reason, nor warranted by experience, and as one in which death must inevitably ensue. Were I not satisfied that this opinion may be most effectually controverted, I should feel but little inclined publicly to remark upon it. The profession is already aware that the responsibility of an operation of the kind was first incurred by me;—that in the year 1813, I removed from a negro in the island of St. Kitts, a tumor half as large again as that of Hoo Loo, weighing 70 pounds;—that at subsequent

periods I performed five similar operations, all with perfect success ; that I assisted in four other cases, where the tumors weighed about 50 pounds each, one only of which was fatal ;—and that I have recorded another attempt, at which I was not present, where the patient died from exhaustion after an operation lasting eight hours, the tumor weighing 156 pounds. The profession is also aware that a like tumor of 45 pounds weight, was removed by Mr. Liston, of Edinburgh, another by Dr. Wells of Maracaibo, and a third by M. Delpech, all with success.

“ We have here, then, together with the case of Hoo Loo, fifteen examples of the operation, whereof three only were fatal. In the first unsuccessful instance, the very great size of the tumor, weighing as it did more than the body to which it was attached,—and the second, the existence of a leprous constitution, will, perhaps, be considered sufficient to account for the fatal result. Various causes assigned for the unfortunate issue of the operation on Hoo Loo, are before the public, and these I leave to individual judgment. The proportion of successful cases is, therefore, fully equal to that of most of the capital operations, while it far surpasses that of several others, and, therefore, sufficiently disproves Mr. Simpson’s assertion, that the operation was not warranted by experience, and must inevitably prove fatal. Moreover, since ascertained fact is the best ground for arguments in the justification of any proceeding, I think, from the foregoing facts it may be inferred, that the operation is also justifiable. Nor can I think that the patient is without adequate hope of benefit consequent on the removal. An operation which removes a formidable incumbrance, and restores ability for active exertion, while it leaves health and strength unimpaired, may surely be deemed a benefit. Mr. Simpson has, indeed, stated his conviction, that, even in the event of a patient surviving the immediate effects of the operation, the immense change which takes place in the state of the circulation afterwards, is sufficient to preclude any rational hope of recovery. To this I would reply, that all the nine patients who survived the operation at St. Kitts, were alive, and in excellent health when I left that island in the year 1823,—periods of from three to ten years having elapsed since the several operations were performed. The patients were highly pleased with their improved condition, and grateful for the advantages they had derived from art.

“ I did not, like Mr. Simpson, form an unfavorable prognosis with regard to Hoo Loo ; I must confess that I considered his a very favorable case for operation, and certainly anticipated a fortunate result. The tumor was not of a bulk inconvenient to the operator ; the neck of it was comparatively small ; the patient was young, robust, in excellent spirits, and anxious for relief ; while, from the state of his pulse, and the appearance of his tongue, he seemed to be in good health. As these tumors rarely, under any circumstances, place life in jeopardy, I should suffer the question of removing them to rest entirely with the patient, and in the event of requisition to operate, I should not for a moment hesitate in complying, where

no contra-indication existed. I should proceed by the same method which I have hitherto adopted, and with very sanguine expectations of a favorable result. Whether the science of surgery has been advantaged by my deliberate extension of its practical efforts for the relief of those who have been afflicted with serotal elephantiasis, it remains with the profession to decide, and, notwithstanding Mr. Simpson's unpropitious judgment, I am not apprehensive of very general censure."

ART. II. *Memoirs of Count Benyowsky: account of himself; his arrival on the eastern coast of Formosa; skirmish with the natives; treaty with a friendly tribe; goes with them as an ally to battle; observations on the island, and the people.*

The sketch of Formosa in our last volume related almost exclusively to the western division of the island. "The Memoirs and Travels of Maurice Augustus, count de Benyowsky," we now take up solely for the sake of obtaining notices respecting the eastern division. This remarkable adventurer, whatever qualities might be wanting in him, will hardly be denied the possession of great enterprise, ambition and talents. By birth a Hungarian nobleman, after serving several years as an officer in the Austrian army, visiting Holland and England in pursuit of nautical information, he went to Poland, where he joined the confederacy against the Russians, became a commander of cavalry, and quarter-master general. But he was taken prisoner, and in 1770 banished to Kamtschatka, being then twenty-nine years of age. Here in conjunction with several other exiles, he conceived the project of seizing a vessel and escaping from Kamtschatka, bearing away with him Aphanasia, the daughter of the Russian governor, who had been so captivated by the attractions of the noble captive, that she determined to share his fortunes, though aware that his wife was then alive in Europe. In 1771 he effected his escape, in company with ninety-six other persons, touched at Japan, the Lew Chew group, Formosa, Macao, and at length, in a French ship he reached France. The French government desirous of profiting by his talents, commissioned him to found a colony on Madagascar, which he effected, and persevered for three years amidst no ordinary difficulties. But the desire of the French ministry to reduce the island to their authority, not coinciding with the count's wish and treaties to leave the native chiefs independent, was the cause of his resigning his commission,—at least, so says the count himself. Upon this he was appointed king by the friendly chiefs, and left the island with powers, and the design of entering into a commercial treaty with some European govern-

ment, and securing their alliance. He applied to the British ministry in 1783, as it would appear without success; but he received aid from private persons in London, and from a commercial house in Baltimore. Leaving his wife in America in 1784, he set out again for Madagasear, where he commenced hostilities against the French, and was killed in battle, in 1786. His widow died at her estate near Betzko in Hungary, December 4th, 1825. Benyowsky wrote his *Memoirs* in French, a translation of which from the manuscript, was published in English by William Nicholson.

With this account of the man, we turn to his book, and open it at the point of his arrival on the eastern shore of Formosa. From reading Anson's voyages, the company of returning exiles had become desirous of adding the knowledge of Formosa to their other discoveries, and accordingly on the 26th of August, 1771, they made the eastern shore in latitude $23^{\circ} 22' N$. They anchored in fourteen fathoms, and sent two boats on shore with sixteen men, who returned in a few hours with three of their number wounded, and with five native prisoners. The report of the officer was that they found the harbor good, the soundings from eight to three fathoms; that on landing they saw a fire and a few islanders to whom they signified their desire of food. They were accordingly conducted to a village, where they were fed with roasted pork, boiled rice, lemons and oranges. The natives appeared quiet; but observing several parties of armed men assembling, he judged it prudent to withdraw, lest they should seek an occasion of quarrel. After making them presents of some knives, he began to return; but before reaching the shore, was assailed with a flight of arrows, wounding two of his men; this was returned with a discharge of musketry, which prostrated six natives, and checked the remainder. But they rallied, and attacked the party again when they reached their boats, but were driven away at length, with the loss of sixty slain, besides the five prisoners.

Upon this inauspicious commencement, the count would have quit the place, but his associates insisted on entering the harbor and taking vengeance, as if enough had not been inflicted already. On the next day, therefore, he brought the vessel up within one hundred fathoms of the shore, and ordered twenty-eight of his men to land. They were immediately met by natives bearing branches of trees, unarmed, and prostrating themselves at their feet. This submission pacified the enraged party, who immediately laid aside their caution with their anger, and entered the village, where either for their licentiousness, or for some other cause, the natives again fell upon them and drove some of them entirely naked from the village. Benyowsky himself was obliged to go and meet them with a reinforcement, when they again drove the people from their village, killed two hundred persons, and finally set it on fire.

Satisfied with what they had seen, the adventurers weighed anchor, and with a light wind and northward current, coasted the island, proceeding towards the north. The count observed that the current caused the vessel always to follow the sinuosities of the shore, and

keeping her always at the same distance from it, removed any apprehension of being thrown on the land by the force of the current without any wind to give power to the helm. After passing a short distance of the coast in this manner, they were piloted into a beautiful harbor with three fathoms of water by two native boats which came off to them. This he named Port Maurice; but we find nothing more definite as to its position—the count having left us in doubt in that respect, not perhaps without design. Numerous boats immediately appeared, bringing them supplies of poultry, hogs, rice, and fruits. Soon after another party arrived with a European at the head of them. He declared himself a Spaniard from Manila, from whence he had fled seven or eight years before, having unfortunately killed a Dominican, who was more unfortunately detected in criminal intercourse with his wife. He had formerly been captain of the port of Cavité at Manila; his name was Don Hieronimo Pacheco. To secure the aid of this man as his interpreter and friend, Benyowsky gave him valuable presents and promises of more, if he found him faithful during his stay at the place.

But as if the adventurers were doomed never to be long out of trouble, the next morning, while a party of them were watering, they were attacked by the natives. The watering place it appears was at a distance from the anchorage, and though Don Hieronimo warned them to beware of the natives of that district, who were in hostility with those of his own; yet the party suffered themselves to be surprised, and three of them were slain. Don Hieronimo and his friends resolved to avenge the death of the three on the hostile tribe. His associates also demanding vengeance on their foes, Benyowsky reluctantly consented: and, “in order that his men might not expose their lives to no purpose,” he led them himself. But when he was once engaged he proceeded with no slack hand. They first massacred all the prisoners they had taken, then attacked all the boats that were approaching them, whether for peace or war, being all unknown, and hung up the men. Forty-two of his party left the ship, and with two hundred under Don Hieronimo proceeded a short distance inland in search of their remaining enemies. They met the hostile tribe and drove them towards a steep hill, where the guns of the ship being brought to bear upon them on one side, and the Spaniard and the count pressing them on another, the poor savages in despair threw themselves prostrate on the earth. Benyowsky now declared that he would fire on his party if they continued the massacre longer. Eleven hundred and fifty-six were counted of the slain; among whom were many women who were armed in the same manner as the men, and died fighting for their homes. Six hundred and forty captives were taken, all of whom were relinquished in favor of the Spaniard and the friendly natives.

The next day after this bloody affair, the count requested permission to “establish a camp” on shore, to which his friends readily agreed, and themselves prepared huts for the reception of their foreign allies. When these were finished, Benyowsky removed on shore

with the wounded and with the females of his party, when he was introduced to the family of Don Hieronimo, and many other friends, from whom he learned that Huapo, one of the independent chiefs of the country, had heard of the chastisement which he had inflicted on his enemies, and was coming to present him thanks. He was told also that the chief could muster as many as 20,000 or 25,000 armed men; that his residence was about thirty leagues inland; that he was much annoyed by Chinese on the west; and that his central territories were civilized, but that the eastern coast, excepting of course Huapo's division, was possessed by savages. During the day, an officer, called the *general*, arrived from the chief to announce his approach, and make preparations. The count received him with much respect, and by a well adapted policy secured his friendship. After hearing his history, the general requested him to delay his departure till the arrival of the chief, by whom he had been sent before with troops to protect the count from any danger: Benyowsky returned suitable thanks, but did not fail to remark that the kind precaution was quite superfluous, and he needed no aid in his own defense. The dress of this general is minutely described by the count; "he wore a long close garment fitted to the body and reaching from the head to the foot, Chinese half boots, a white shirt, a black vest, and a red outer garment with buttons of coral set in gold. His bonnet of straw was exceedingly pointed, and the upper extremity ornamented with horse hair, dyed red. His arms were a sabre, a lance, a bow and quiver with twenty-five arrows. His troops were naked, with the exception of a piece of blue cloth around the middle; and their arms were bows and spears." The interval till the coming of Huapo was spent in dining with the general, and in making exhibitions of gamery. Meantime "the islanders had become so familiar as to leave their daughters in our camp."

The arrival of the prince is described as follows: "first came six horsemen, with a kind of standard; these were followed by a troop of infantry with pikes; after them came thirty or forty horsemen, and another body of infantry with bows; a troop armed with clubs and hatchets came next; and last of all came the prince attended by twelve or fifteen officers mounted on small but beautiful horses. The rest of the troops came without any regular order; on their arrival at our camp, every one lodged where he could, and there was no guard set." The count was immediately invited to the presence of the chief, who sent horses to bring him. The appearance of the chief was such as to "strike at first sight; he was between thirty-five and forty years of age, about five feet and three inches high, of a strong and vigorous make, with a lively eye and majestic carriage." He immediately made the count welcome to the island, and thanked him for the effectual manner in which he had humbled one of the hostile tribes. He proceeded further to state his opinion that the count must be the stranger predicted by their diviners, whose coming was a forerunner to breaking the Chinese yoke from the necks of the Formosans; he therefore offered him all his power

and influence to aid in the design of liberating the island. This beginning, says Benyowsky, and the representation of Don Hieronimo that I was in fact a great prince, insensibly led me to play a new part, as though I had visited Formosa for the purpose of satisfying myself concerning the position of the Chinese and of fulfilling the wishes of the inhabitants by delivering them from the power of that treacherous people. The count was indeed no stickler for the right, whenever he could gain his ends by playing a new, or an old, or a double part.

In another visit, the chief entered more into the detail of his reasons for wishing to make war on the Chinese, and "left me no reason to doubt, that vanity induced him to declare war upon them." As the count began to cherish the idea of returning again and founding a colony on the island, he foresaw that the friendship of a native chief would be very serviceable both on the spot, and in enabling him to make the proposal of a colony seem reasonable to some European power. He resolved therefore to secure the friendship of Huapo by all means. For this purpose he showed him the ship, gave him an exhibition of fire works, and on retiring, the chief gave him his belt and sabre, as a token that he would share with him the power over the army. The count in return prepared presents for the chief, consisting of two pieces of cannon, thirty good muskets, six barrels of gunpowder, two hundred iron balls, and fifty pounds of match: besides fifty Japanese sabres, part of the prize, as we suppose, of the Japanese junk which our adventurers had previously captured.

The count meanwhile improved the interval, till another visit, in questioning and receiving information from Don Hieronimo; so that his answers were ready conneed for the proposals which the prince made to him. Some of these proposals were the following: that he should leave a part of his people on the island till his return; that he should procure for him armed vessels, and captains to command them; that he should aid the chief to expel the Chinese, on condition of receiving at present the entire proprietorship of the department of Hawangsin, and finally when completely successful, that of his whole territory; that he should assist him in his present expedition against one of the neighboring chieftains, for the payment of a certain sum, and for other advantages; and last, that they should enter into a permanent treaty of friendship. To all of these propositions, except the first, the count assented, stating the cost of procuring the required supplies of men and shipping; and then they prepared to ratify the agreement of perpetual friendship. The accompanying ceremonies remind us of a similar custom which prevails extensively in many islands of the eastern Archipelago, as well as elsewhere, when a savage chief would assure a guest of his friendship: "We approached a small fire, upon which we threw several pieces of wood. A censor was then given to me, and another to him. These were filled with lighted wood, upon which we threw incense, and turning towards the east, we made several fumigations. After this ceremony, the general read the proposals and my answers,

and whenever he paused, we turned towards the east and repeated the fumigation. At the end of the reading, the prince pronounced imprecations and maledictions upon him who should break the treaty of friendship between us; and Don Hieronimo directed me to do the same, and afterwards interpreted my words. After this, we threw our fire on the ground, and thrust our sabres in the earth up to the hilts. Assistants immediately brought a quantity of large stones, with which they covered our arms; and the prince then embraced me, and declared that he acknowledged me as his brother." When these ceremonies were ended, the count was dressed in a complete suit after the fashion of the country, and was received with every demonstration of joy. Accompanied by the chief he rode through the camp, and received the submission of all the officers, which was signified by each one touching with his left hand the stirrup of the one whom he saluted.

"After having determined to assist the chief in his expedition," say the Memoirs, "I thought proper to make some inquiries on the subject." A very commendable mode of procedure, certainly, for all adventurers who do not mean to be turned from their purpose by any disclosures of the right and the wrong which a subsequent inquiry may evolve. He thus learned, 'that *Hapuasingo*, a native chief, allied and tributary to the Chinese, had demanded that Huapo should punish with death several of his subjects, on account of some quarrels between private individuals; but that Huapo, instead of acceding to the request, made an unsuccessful war against Hapuasingo, and was compelled to submit to pay him a considerable sum as an indemnification; that the Chinese governor, under the pretense of obtaining further reimbursement for his expenses, had in conjunction with Hapuasingo seized one of his finest districts; that his enemy's capital was not more than a day and a half's march distant; that his army did not exceed 6,000 men, and the Chinese were about 1,000, with fifty muskets.' Benyowsky promised to maintain the quarrel of his friend, and required sixty horses for the transport of forty-eight of his company, with four *paterarocs* and ammunition.

On the third of September, the combined army set forward on its march for the enemy, moving only in the morning and evening to avoid the extreme heat of the noonday. At regular intervals they were refreshed with supplies of rice, fruits, and *brandy*, while their horses were limited to the healthier article of rice only. When they drew near the seat of war, the deserted villages and fields told that the enemy had taken the alarm. Within six hour's march of the enemy's capital, the count halted for the army of Huapo to come up, which was one day's march in the rear. But small parties of the enemy having appeared, and engaged in skirmishes, Benyowsky pitched a sort of camp, and fixed his small cannon for its defense. Presently the whole army of ten or twelve thousand at least, approached him, and attacked his camp. Twice he drove them back with great loss, and pursued them the second time till night. At this time Huapo arrived, and it was resolved to attack the enemy in their

turn next morning. The count divided his own little company into three parts, and attached one part to each division of his allies. But the noise of the musketry and cannon alone, after the experience of the preceding day, was enough to put them all to flight. The result was a great slaughter, the capture of the hostile chief and four of his women. When Huapo was sought for, in order to receive his prisoners, it was found that like a prudent man he had quite withdrawn from the scene of danger, "desirous rather of being a spectator than an actor." To him the count delivered the captive chief, on condition that he should suffer no personal injury.

The battle appeared decisive, and all warlike operations being given over, the count announced his purpose to return and embark immediately. The chief and the general overwhelmed him with protestations of friendship, and did not forget the more solid part of thanks. The presents of the prince consisted of some fine pearls, eight hundred pounds of silver, twelve pounds of gold. For his private use, the count received a box containing one hundred pieces of gold, which together weighed thirteen pounds and a quarter; and the general was charged to attend him with one hundred and twenty horsemen, and to provide subsistence. The count left with the chief the pateraroes, whose usefulness he had seen so fully tested; and one of his companions to teach their use, as well as himself to learn the language until the return of the count. On returning, they passed through a pleasant, well cultivated country, watered with fine streams, and very populous, as appeared from the frequency of the villages.

When he arrived on the coast, the count distributed the whole of his presents, private and all others, among his associates, officers and women, reserving nothing to himself. This act of generosity gave him unbounded influence over his companions in adversity, but no more than was necessary, as immediately appeared. His confidential officers came in a body and endeavored to persuade him to accept the department which had been ceded to him, and fix his residence here, resting from their wanderings, on this friendly and unknown island. "If we, exiles, reach Europe, what shall await us there in the land which has cast us out of its bosom? Here we can live safely and happily under your command, and we are enough to found a European colony." Indeed, they argued the point so well that we almost wonder they did not prevail; but it appears that the count from his past experience had some suspicion that the morals and habits of his followers would be little security against insubordination and crimes, which would subvert any attempts to plant a colony. By other arguments than these, however, such as the desire of seeing his family, and the hope of securing some governmental patronage, he prevailed on them to accompany him. Accordingly they left the harbor on the 12th of September, and sailing round the northern headland of the island, steered for Macao.

We shall conclude this article, with a summary of Benyowsky's observations upon the eastern coast, and some remarks drawn from Chinese authorities. Formosa, the 'beautiful,' is called by the Chinese

Taewan, and by the natives, Pacca, or Paccalinba. From all accounts, the western division of the island well deserves the name which the Portuguese gave it. But the eastern portion has been said to be uncultivated and barren; on what good authority, we know not. Our author, who wrote more than sixty years ago, and who had seen no part but the eastern, describes it as "one of the finest and richest in the world." Instead of being uncultivated entirely, he says, "the soil in numberless places produces two harvests of rice and other grain annually, with a great variety of trees, fruits, plants, animals and birds. Cattle, sheep, goats, and poultry are very abundant here." The country is well watered, and the waters abound in fish. The mountains produce gold and silver, cinabar, white and brown copper, and fossil coal. He fully confirms the opinion that the coast has many commodious harbors, and bays. Sounds are formed by the islands, which line part of the shore, between which are inlets leading to the main island. The count states that the inhabitants are civilized, except a part of them who dwell by the seaside; and confirms it by their use of books, the cultivation of their lands, and by their buildings. But nothing which he has written goes to convince us that they have advanced at all beyond semi-civilization. On the other hand, Chinese books describe the natives as altogether uncultivated, and barbarous; but at the same time allow that they are of a gentle disposition among themselves, but implacable towards their enemies; having no laws or civil government, and without any tokens of religious worship. But we cannot fail to recollect that the Chinese apply the epithet "*barbarian*" impartially to any and all of the unfortunate race of man, who have not yet felt the transforming influence of the celestial empire. The count moreover allows that the natives are effeminate, cowardly, and indolent, rather indebted to the goodness of the soil than to their own industry, for preservation. He asserts, however, that they did not show a thievish disposition. The sands of the rivers they washed to obtain gold, but resorted to no more laborious mode of gathering the precious metal. Blue cotton was the clothing of the common people, if clothing it might be called, which was no covering. The towns were always built on the plains, and the villages on the mountains. The houses of men of rank were extensive but plain, and the apartments of the females were separate. Those of the people were mere huts, "and they were not permitted to build better."

The Chinese possessed the three western of the 'eight principalities' into which the island is divided; and besides these, their officers on the frontiers by intrigue and alliance have acquired several other districts, and are constantly extending their jurisdiction eastward. Notwithstanding the assertion of the Chinese books, that there is no regular government among the unsubdued natives, the count assures us, that the unconquered districts are ruled by independent chiefs who have unlimited authority over their subjects. The right of soil belongs to the chiefs alone; but the subject reaps advantages from cultivating it. Veteran officers or soldiers are placed in com-

mand over towns and villages; and there is no village, if we may trust the Memoirs, which is not under the oversight of a soldier, who in turn is subject to his superior. Domestic slavery is greatly practiced; some of the principal people had hundreds of slaves. The chiefs have a body guard of a few hundred young men, and keep a number of vessels, each with two masts and twenty-four oars; but they make no use of cannon.

In each district there are five or six towns where instruction is given in reading and writing. The count declares that they obtain their books from China, and that their characters for writing are as difficult as the Chinese. If this be so, it is probable that their literature was quite dependent on China for its origin; and that they either derived from thence the knowledge of writing, or that the Chinese mode of writing has superseded their own, or combined with it, as in Corea and Japan. In the matter of religion, the count quite disagrees with Chinese authors, affirming that the religion of the people consists in adoring one God, and in the performance of good offices towards their neighbors. But we do not attach implicit reliance to the count's testimony on this subject; because we judge that he was not so nice an observer on this point as on some others. Their pure and simple theism, like that of the Chinese which was once so lauded, will probably prove to be an idea always unknown, or long since lost, among the people. But all agree, however, in describing them as free from any tokens of idolatry, yet as subject to the influence of conjurers and diviners;—in these respects bearing much resemblance to the aborigines of North America.

In conclusion we would say that we have quoted from this curious book, rather because it speaks of a subject quite unknown, than because it is of undoubted veracity in all its statements. They are the observations of a military man, observing and shrewd, and designed, no doubt, to give on the whole a favorable aspect to his proposed enterprise of colonizing the island. But since we do not find his Memoirs have been corrected by subsequent observers, so far as they have had opportunity to verify his statements relative to other subjects treated of in his book, we suppose that these may in general sustain the same test, if any one shall ever be permitted to visit the same ground. He evidently intended to return and risk his own fortunes on the island, but was subsequently diverted from his design by the offer of royal patronage in Madagascar; so that our knowledge of eastern Formosa remains at the present day as it was half a century ago. Enough, however, is known to show that the acquisition of further knowledge is practicable. The anchorages are good and numerous. Though he did not see the "gigantic race of negroes" which Valentyn declared might be seen there, yet he found an olive colored people, with whom he held a varied intercourse; a country already to some degree furnishing the means of trade, and with proper motives to the cultivators, capable of a vast increase of such means; he found them not exempt from the vices of such a state of semi-barbarism, but without idolatry.

ART. III. *Siamese Romance: translated from the original Siamese by Mrs. ———, while residing at Bangkok the capital of the kingdom of Siam.*

IT will be in our power ere long, we hope, to entertain our readers with verities concerning the history, geography, literature, manners, habits, government, religion, &c., of the Siamese. As a nation, they are excessively fond of the wild vagaries of Buddhism. Those who have amassed wealth, often employ it in building temples or pagodas for the convenienc of the priests and the honor of their religion. Those also who have the means, maintain large numbers of the priests, who pass their whole time in perfect idleness. People often invite the priests to their houses to perform religious services. In such cases, seated "squat like a toad," on a seat a little elevated, they rehearse in a drawling voice a piece similar to that which we subjoin. During the performance, the auditors, who are generally few, and chiefly old women, remain on their knees, with raised hands, until the dull tones of the orator have lulletd them to sleep. After the service is ended, the priest is richly ~~re~~ retained and liberally paid.—The following is an extract from one of those pieces, which are rehearsed in the manner above described; it seems to have been published as an address to readers.

"Now I am about to republish a story. At the time when the vacuum was in existence, and all things were in the most profound silence, long, long ago in olden time, there was a kingdom, called the realm of Chambauk. The king bore the name of Chambauk Rachareteret, and his queen was the lady Chantalitawec. She was both amiable and dutiful, and a thousand times fair and slender. Her countenance was very handsome, her deportment elegant, and she was quite superior to all her maids of honor. Now I would speak in praise of the kingdom. The whole surface was covered with an immense population, who lived extremely contented, and filled with happiness. The symmetry of their bodies adorned the kingdom. They came in crowds to bring stones for the wall of the city.* They also built a spire of three stories, and adorned it with the finest sculpture and carving.† The pillars were well proportioned, and sustained a splendid dome, laid out with lamina; to the sight it was like branches drooping from a tree. The vault of the dome was very great; upon it were griffons fighting with giants. In front of the pillars, was abundant splendor. The plan was laid out in the utmost grandeur. The whole was perfect, surrounded by a moat, which thus con-

* In Siam and Camboja, one of the greatest beauties of the city is the wall which surrounds the imperial residence. In 1830, the city wall of Baukok in Siam, required whitewashing; the nobles were collected, and to each a part of the wall was allotted to be cleaned and whitewashed at his own expense. The rich had the smallest portion, but the poor were favored with a wider space.

† The spire is the highest decoration of a palace, and is usually gilded, and inlaid with a species of mother of pearl.

stituted it a camp; and there they erected towers like shields, and made loop holes, which everywhere embellished the city walls. About the massy gates were crowds of people observing the glory of the nation. The high towers were elegant, beautiful, fine! Within the walls was a market, where bustling crowds bought and sold. All was undisturbed, universal gaiety and joy, and there they walked in stirring rows.

“Now, my good reader, when the king cherished love towards the lady Chantahtawee, he wished to raise her to the rank of queen* above all the ladies, and all the train of waiting maids. He observed, therefore, the directions of the sacred books, showed himself generous, and gave alms to the poor, wretched, and destitute. The king showed himself gracious, and bestowed gifts on all his slaves, female as well as male. He expended and distributed much property, made all the people cheerful, gave them gifts according to their wishes, and provided food for the future. At the same time, he built a temple, destined for the priests, where they should commemorate the *passover* [?], live piously, and keep their bodies in subjection; investigate and investigate the sacred books. The king also ordered the sacred books to be translated, and to be studied according to the rule of the sacred code, so that the behavior of the priests might be regulated. Thus he glorified the holy ritual, made it splendid, and without spot.† The glory and might of the king was exceedingly great.‡ His fame and honor spread even to far distant kingdoms, whose inhabitants willingly became his slaves.

“Now, my reader, when lady Chantahtawee had lived with the king, she became pregnant. At this time, rice, coriander, peas, and beans were produced in large quantities. Whilst the queen enjoyed health, she frequently came to behold the nation, till the time of her delivery arrived. She then brought forth a son, beautiful and vigorous as a bow from the moment of his birth. He was the possessor of great riches and honor; a large train of attendant slaves waited on him without cessation, day by day. Now this mighty king wished to show kindness to his best beloved son: and chose for him both wet nurses and governors, whose business it was to superintend him day and night. There was also issued the royal decree, that a hundred waiting maids, high in authority, and of noble extraction, who possessed honor, and rank, and beauty, and elegance, finely proportioned, in complexion neither black nor white, but of the lovely yellow of the saffron, should be selected. Their beauty was

* When the king comes to the throne, his wife does not become queen, till her husband chooses to confer that favor upon her; but usually, on becoming king, he marries another person, and the first giving place then becomes his second wife.

† On the occasion of marriages, the priests are the principal objects of regard; to them abundant presents of clothing, food, and money are given, for which they are expected to say prayers or masses. The poor are generally the least remembered, but receive some trifling gifts when the prayers are said.

‡ The greatness of a king consists in building temples, and supporting an immense number of priests.

sparkling, and their countenances glistened with splendid majesty and chastity. They had to sing, and dance, and chant to the son of the king with their melodious voices, like the celestial beings who reside in the kingdom of heaven.

“Now, my reader, I must speak about the beauty of this exalted child, because it was of royal extraction and parentage. When it was born it was wonderful. There was a wonder: the stars sparkled, shone, and glistened with immense beauty; and in the universe the angels,* gathering in crowds, pronounced a blessing, and strewed flowers, the fragrant of which penetrated every corner. When the prince was born, there was a Brahmin came from another country.† He brought fine, large elephants, and presented them to the new born prince, together with golden anklets. The king rejoiced exceedingly and made presents to him as a remuneration; raised him above all the other Brahmins, and made him the ruler of the kingdom. Now, reader, when the child was grown to the age of five years, his majesty gave him the name of Chow-tee-ah-woo-ke-man. He was at that time, well proportioned, of slender hip and possessed a smiling countenance, with tender features. When he wished to go out, there was prepared for him a golden palanquin, beautiful to behold.‡

“In his superiority, he possessed riches and dominions. His look was condescending, surpassing all the kings of other kingdoms. He also held a kingdom which was incomparable. By the merits of this royal prince, the nation was happy, contented, and cheerful.

“Now, reader, I must break off awhile from this story, and I will relate something of another kingdom called Bunchal; the name of the king was Bunchalret; the name of the queen was Nimitahavi. She was fair, tender, and slender; she had many daughters, who accompanied her, and superintended the slaves. The king had a very amiable disposition towards his ladies; and because they were pleasing, he founded a city according to the pattern of the ancients, planted it with many trees, built it with stones, and whitewashed it with lime. He built a market with a channel, where all the people assembled in crowds; there, seated in rows, they bought and sold as much as was sufficient for their necessities. The people were happy, cheerful, and suffered no oppression. The king also built a dome. Everything in the kingdom was elegant and splendid. The nation gathered around, cheerful, happy, and without cares; and the nobility followed the pattern of the ancients. The king

* The Cambojans believe that there are different ranks of angels; some dwell in paradise, others in woods or with men. All are the attendants of men to whom prayers are addressed, and sacrifices offered.

† The Brahmins frequently visit and even settle in Siam; they are chiefly employed as astrologers and sorcerers, perform the rite of baptism, explain the Pali books; and the kings emulate each other in building for them splendid temples, and supporting them with all imaginary dignity.

‡ Only those persons who are of the highest rank, are allowed a palanquin or chair; and the members of the royal family only are allowed to have an umbrella carried behind them.

also took care, that there was no want of justice. So he was celebrated, and possessed great honor; his name was famous in the whole universe, and his glory and majesty were unspotted. When the king was thus happily seated, his queen again became pregnant, and great wonders appeared. The earth shook, thunders rolled, lightnings flashed in variegated colors, and the people came together to praise the merits of the king. Then the queen brought forth a daughter, beautiful, without spot, and very dutiful; her smiling face resembled the moon when she is in her fullness. The whole nation brought presents of gold and silver, offering them to the new born daughter. The king sought for five hundred virgins to wait on the young princess; they were pure, chaste, and unspotted; while the nation rejoiced, and was perfectly happy. When the princess had attained her fifth year, her beauty was perfect. His majesty appointed governesses to watch over her with the utmost care. These ladies were famous in other kingdoms. Every body, nobles as well as the common people, came to admire the royal child; they thronged in immense numbers, and the voice of their praise shook the earth.

“I shall now discontinue this relation, and speak again about the former king, Chambauk Rachareteret. While this monarch was enjoying perfect ease, there came hunters from a far kingdom. They announced that in their excursions, they had seen the immense beauty of this princess, and now came to acquaint his majesty of it. The king was greatly delighted, consulted with his consort, and commanded to take another sight of her. They then went back, and arriving in the garden by stealth, they hid themselves in the bushes, and laid themselves down in the pleasant shade; when, accompanied by an immense train of maidens, the princess entered. Elephants, horses, and chariots, with soldiers, followed. When all the attendants had arrived, they surrounded the royal child on all sides, and coming to the brink of a stream of water, they put down the palanquin which they bore on their shoulders. The governesses, then anointing the royal child, undressed her, after which the glorious princess, with all splendor, descended into the sparkling, glistening water. Now the whole company began to play, dandle, and caress each other full of joy and cheerfulness. The royal princess dived and swam, leaving the maidens far behind, and hid herself under the shadow of the trees. The hunters, beholding the royal daughter, stood astounded, looking at her elegant beauty and accomplishments. They addressed her, saying, ‘O wonderful nymph! from the time of our first existence, we have never beheld a countenance like thine, so beautiful, so fair: there is no female like thee: thou art to be compared to celestial beings and angels who dwell in paradise; but comparison is vain.’ Fainting with astonishment, the hunters resolved to give a full account to the king Chambauk Rachareteret, that the prince might become her partner. Who was so worthy, as the son of so great a lord? While they were thinking thus, they lingered and looked in deep silence, that they might see

plainly, and be certain. At the same time, the governesses were following the royal daughter, who had swam far away, to snatch her from the danger. While they were thinking, they were scattered; some swam, dived, and rose to rejoin her; the eyes of some were shut, and they could not see; others passed her; others cried, 'catch the princess!' but nothing was heard of her. Finally, when they reached her, the princess praising their zeal, said, 'maidens, do not hurry, nor complain that you do not see me; wait a little, and I shall return.' And so she dived, came up, and dived again, grasped the hand of the governesses and maid servants who had been shocked at her going so far, and had exerted their utmost to induce her to return. She was very dextrous in the water, and superior to all of them, to the great astonishment of the maidens, who remained speechless.

"When the afternoon was come, the attendants prepared to return to the palace. Some soldiers were chosen to pluck flowers of different kinds for the princess, which she was to present to her illustrious parents, to whom she had to pay her respects. When they arrived at the palace gate, the parents heard of it, and his majesty went down to receive his royal daughter, who had been perfumed by the flowers. He stroked and caressed the child, saying, 'dearly beloved daughter of your father, what have you brought to present him?' The child replied, 'nothing but a few flowers, among which is the lotus; these I come to present to my father.' Whilst fragrance perfumed the whole, the king commanded, saying, 'my good health and strength he given to you, and no sickness or weakness ever trouble you. Maid servants be of good cheer.' All understood the meaning, and they began to sing harmoniously, and enjoyed the bliss, and till late at night, made the earth shake with their exultations. During the time of the tranquil night, they praised the merits of the illustrious king, till exhausted and wearied, like a man who is carrying a thousand pounds and puts them down from off his shoulder unable to speak, they looked around and saw the princess among them, fair and shining as a nymph, endeavoring to gain merit and applause by being among them.* Then the king beginning to slumber, commanded the princess to lie down on the couch to sleep, and wander in dreams. The princess walked into her chamber, and stretched herself on the couch, after fastening the door. In her dream, she being astonished, called for the help of her governesses, saying, 'my ladies, assist your younger sister, whose whole body is shackled.' The women, greatly surprised, rose and came. The princess related the dream which she had seen, that a prince had entered the room, and begged her to become his spouse. The women answered and said, 'the dream at which your highness was so astonished is very lucky.' The princess replied, 'tell me about the matter, do not fear, hide nothing, I shall not be angry.' The women said, 'we will tell you; did not your highness see a serpent winding

* On solemn occasions, the Cambojans spend a whole night in singing and music; this they call meritorious, and boast of their generosity

itself around your body? Now this signifies a king who has received an account of you, and comes to petition an alliance of love; do not tarry to accede.' The little princess replied, 'is this the good fortune you tell me of; do not talk so to your young sister.' And the women were silent." * * * *

ART. IV. *The Bonin islands: their situation, productions, &c., as noticed by the Japanese in 1675 and subsequently; by Captain Beechey in 1827; more recently by a correspondent of the London Metropolitan; and in August, 1834, by Mr. ———.*

These islands, which are about twenty-nine degrees east of Canton, and eight south from Jedo, 'are most conveniently situated for watching the trade of China on the west, the Philippines on the south, and Russia on the north; and if any intercourse is soon to be opened with the Japanese, they form the position from which it could be most easily effected.' The earliest account which we find of the Bonin islands is contained in Kämpfer's history of Japan. "About the year 1675," says the historian, "the Japanese accidentally discovered a very large island, one of their barks having been forced there in a storm from the island Fatsisio, from which they computed it to be 300 miles distant towards the east. They met with no inhabitants, but found it to be a very pleasant and fruitful country, well supplied with fresh water, and furnished with plenty of plants and trees, particularly the arrack tree, which however might give room to conjecture, that the island lay rather to the south of Japan, than to the east, these trees growing only in hot countries. And because they found no inhabitants upon it, they called it *Bunin sima*, or the island *Buniu*, [in Chinese *woo jin* 'without people,'] the uninhabited island. On the shores they found an immense number of fish and crabs, some of which were from four to six feet long."

The following description of the islands is from a Japanese work published in Jedo in 1785. 'The group is composed of eighty-nine islands, of which the most considerable are two large ones, two of middling size, and six smaller. These ten are spacious, and covered with herbs and trees; their plains offer an agreeable residence for man. As to the other islands, they are nothing but steep, sterile, and uninhabitable rocks. This archipelago is in latitude twenty-seven degrees north; the climate is warm; and the vallies, situated between the high mountains, are fertile and watered by rivulets. The islands produce vegetables, grain of all kinds, great quantities of sugar-cane, with extensive pastures. Some of the trees are large, and the wood is hard and beautiful. Palm trees, cocoa nut, the betel nut, camphor, red sandal wood, mountain fig, mulberry, cinnamon,

the tallow, and the wax trees, are found there. Among the plants are the *Smilax china*, and others used in medicine. Few quadrupeds are seen; but birds are in abundance. There are several kinds of parrots, also herons, and partridges. The chief productions of the mineral kingdom are alum, green vitriol, stones of various colors, petrifications, &c. In the sea are whales, great lobsters, enormous shell-fish, and sea eggs. The largest of these islands is about forty miles in circuit, another is thirty-two, the other eight are from six to twenty miles around.' (Canton Register, March 20th, 1833.)

In his voyage to the Pacific, captain Beechey, while steering eastward from the Lewchew islands, on the 8th of June, 1827, had the satisfaction to descry several islands extending north and south as far the eye could reach. They all appeared to be small, yet they were high and very remarkable, particularly one near the centre. On the 9th, the Blossom entered a secure harbor, and came to an anchor in eighteen fathoms, almost landlocked. "This harbor is situated in the largest island of the cluster, and has its entrance conspicuously marked by a bold, high promontory on the southern side, and a tall quoin-shaped rock on the other. It is nearly surrounded by hills, and the plan of it upon paper suggests the idea of its being an extinguished crater. Almost every valley has a stream of water, and the mountains are clothed with trees, among which the *Areca oleracea*, and fan-palms are conspicuous. There are several sandy bays, in which green turtle are so numerous that they quite hide the color of the shore. The sea yields an abundance of fish; the rocks and caverns are the resort of craw-fish and other shell-fish; and the shores are the refuge of snipes, plovers, and wild pigeons. At the upper part of the port, there is a small basin, formed by coral reefs, conveniently adapted for heaving a ship down; and on the whole it is a most desirable place of resort for a whale ship." By a board nailed against a tree, it appeared that the port had been entered in September, 1825, by an English ship named the Supply. Captain B. could not allow so fair an opportunity to escape of taking possession of the islands; and accordingly, in due form, he "declared them to be the property of the British government by nailing a sheet of copper to a tree, with the necessary particulars engraved upon it." The harbor he called Port Lloyd, 'out of regard to the late bishop of Oxford,' and the island in which it is situated he named after sir Robert Peel.

They continued in Port Lloyd till the 15th of June; and enjoyed frequent opportunities for examining the surrounding country. Peel's island is entirely volcanic, and there is every appearance of the others to the northward being of the same formation. Basaltic columns were noticed in several parts of Port Lloyd, and in one place they were divided into short lengths as at the Giant's Causeway. Many of the rocks consist of tuffaceous basalt of a grayish or greenish hue, frequently traversed by veins of petrosilex, and containing numerous nodules of chalcedony or cornelian. Zeolites were not wanting; and the stilbite, in the lamellar foliated form, was

abundant. Olivine and hornblend were also common; and the druses were often found containing a watery substance, which had an astringent taste not unlike alum. Coral animals have raised ledges and reefs of coral around almost all the bays. The hills about the anchorage were wooded from the water's edge nearly to the summit. They found among these trees, besides the cabbage tree and fan palm, the tamanu of Otaheite, the *Pandanus odoratissimus* and a species of the purau; also some species of *Laurus*, of *Urtica*, the *Terminalia*, *Dodonæa viscosa*, *Eleocarpus serratis*, &c. Wood for building boats was found, which answered well for knees, timbers, &c. They saw no wild animals of the mammalia class except the vampire bat. Of birds, besides the herons, plovers, snipes, and pigeons, they saw rails, the common black crow, a small bird resembling the canary, and a grossbeak,—all very tame. The sea abounded in fish, some of which were beautiful. "We were," says the captain, "surrounded by sharks so daring and voracious that they bit at the oars and boat's rudder, and though wounded by the boat-hook, returned several times to the attack. At the upper end of Ten Fathom Hole [a part of the above mentioned basin which was so named in consequence of there being ten fathoms of water all over it,] there were a great many green turtles; and the boat's crew were sent to turn some of them for our sea stock. The sharks, to the number of forty at least, as soon as they observed these animals in confusion, rushed in among them, and to the great danger of our people, endeavored to seize them by the fins, several of which we noticed to have been bitten off. These turtle weighed from three to four hundred weight each, and were so inactive that, had there been a sufficient number of men, the whole shoal might have been turned."

Captain Beechey, unable to visit the southern islands, confined his observations to the northern group which 'consists of three clusters lying nearly N. by E. and extending from the latitude of 27° 44' 35" N., to 26° 30' N. and beyond, but that was the utmost limit of our view to the southward. The northern cluster consists of small islands, and pointed rocks, and has much broken ground about it, which renders caution necessary in approaching it. I distinguished it by the name of Parry's group. The middle cluster consists of three islands, of which Peel's island, four miles and a fifth in length, is the largest. This group is nine miles and a quarter in length, and is divided by two channels so narrow that they can only be seen when abreast of them: neither of them are navigable by shipping. The northern, I named Stapleton, and the other, Buckland. At the southwest angle of Buckland island there is a sandy bay, in which ships will find good anchorage; but they must be careful in bringing up to avoid being carried out of soundings by the current: I named it Walker's bay. The southern cluster is evidently that in which a whale ship commanded by Mr. Coffin anchored in 1823, who was the first to communicate its position to this country, and who bestowed his own name upon it. These clusters of islands correspond

so well with a group named *Yslas del Arzobispo*, in a work published many years ago in Manila, entitled 'Navigation Especulativa y Pratica,' that I have retained the name, in addition to that of Bonin; it is extremely doubtful from the Japanese accounts of Bonin sima, whether there are not other islands in the vicinity, to which the latter name is not more applicable. In the Japanese accounts, the two large islands are said to be inhabited, to contain several villages and temples, and to produce leguminous vegetables, and all kinds of grain, besides a great abundance of pasturage, sugar canes, lofty palm trees, cocoa nuts, and other fruits, also sandalwood, and camphor. But the group which we visited had neither villages, temples, nor any remains whatever. There were no cocoa nut trees nor sugar canes, no leguminous plants, nor any plains for the cultivation of grain, the land being very steep in every part, and overgrown with tall trees.' Captain B. found two individuals on Peel's island, who had resided there about eight months. They were a part of the crew of the *William*, a whale ship belonging to London. They informed the captain, that in winter there is much bad weather from the north, and north-west; but that as summer approaches these winds abate, and are succeeded by others from the southward and south-eastward, which prevail throughout that season and are generally attended with fine weather, with the exception of fogs which are prevalent. They stated also that earthquakes were frequent during the winter.

To the learned editor of the London Metropolitan it appears that nothing more is required to add both the Sandwich and Bonin islands to the British colonies, 'than to send out a frigate to each group of islands, with a large proportion of artificers in each, and their wives to be permitted to go out with them,—the captains of the frigates to be the governors of the islands. In a very short time, more would be effected by this means, than by the usual expensive system of colonization, which up to the present time has been resorted to.' His correspondent maintains the same opinion, and regrets that such a measure was not adopted in 1824; for then 'discovery, civilization, and Christianity, would have been more effectually advanced, and British commerce would long ere this have supplanted that which is now almost exclusively carried on by our more enterprising friends, the Americans. The two positions are of great importance, as they are situated in the line of communication between western America and China. Eventually, I little doubt, that the mails from China, when Mexico shall have become a settled state, will find their way by this route; viz:

From England to Vera Cruz, in N. lat.	19,	say	6	weeks;
Overland to San Blas,	"	"	21,	"
San Blas to Sandwich islands,	"	"	21,	"
Sandwich islands to the Bonin,	"	"	27,	"
And from the Bonin to Canton,	"	"	23,	"
Allowance for delays, &c., say			2	"

Thus the passage to Canton will occupy only sixteen weeks.

‘The passage cannot be performed in much shorter time than one hundred and twelve days. By this conveyance the trade winds can be depended on throughout the whole distance, and the wear and tear of a packet will be trifling.’ The correspondent of the Metropolitan is quite safe in saying that the passage, according to the present mode of traveling, cannot be made in much shorter time than sixteen weeks. We are assured by good authorities that three weeks would be considered a quick run from San Blas to the Sandwich islands; and that it would require a still longer time to sail from the latter to the Bonin islands. During the most favorable seasons, passages, round the Cape of Good Hope, have been made *from* England and the United States in 98, 104, and 110 days; and passages *to* the same places have been made in 96, 100, 104, and 110 days (perhaps sometimes, even shorter than these); but in the favorable seasons, no one ever thinks of sending by San Blas, or the Red sea. How quick the passage will be performed when steam vessels are made to traverse the Pacific, and rail roads are built across the continent from Europe to eastern Asia, we will not venture to predict.

Our latest and most authentic information concerning the Bonin islands, is from an English gentleman, who visited them last autumn, and who has very obligingly furnished us with the following particulars; some of which corroborate, and others contradict, those contained in the foregoing statements. Port St. George, or Lloyd as named by Beechey, he found by careful and repeated observations to be in latitude $27^{\circ} 6' 30''$ N. and longitude $142^{\circ} 16'$ E. He says:

“In August, 1834, the American barque Volunteer, touched at the Bonin islands to procure supplies. Having been informed at the Sandwich islands that the settlers had gone to the south island, we made for that first, and after a fruitless search for them of three days, we found them on the south of the north island. On the 24th of August, under the pilotage of Mr. Mazarra, we worked into the harbor, named by captain Beechey Port Lloyd, but by the settlers Port St. George. Mr. M. is the person who fitted out a vessel at the Sandwich islands, and brought the present settlers from thence to the Bonin islands, about six years ago. We found the harbor large and safe, there being two reefs which form a breakwater and perfectly shelter vessels from the south-west winds, from which point the harbor is most exposed. The upper part of the harbor forms a basin, in which vessels of light draught can moor in perfect safety. The harbor is capable of containing from thirty to forty sail.

“The settlers cleared, and now have under good cultivation, large tracts of land, on which they raise Indian corn, yams, sweet potatoes, melons, plantains, onions, beans, salad, and pumpkins. They have had cabbages, and Irish potatoes, but they did not thrive. For all these vegetables the settlers find a ready sale, when the whale ships visit the islands. During the seasons 1833 and '34, sixteen of these vessels arrived. The settlers have also a great many hogs; and in a year or two more, goats will be plentiful. On their arrival, they turned a bull and a cow into the woods; but there is every rea-

son to suppose the bull was maliciously shot by a runaway sailor from one of the whalers. Abundant supplies of water and wood are procurable, and at very moderate prices. The following are the prices we paid for our supplies.

Indian corn, . . .	83	per barrel,
Sweet potatoes, . . .	2	" "
Yams, . . .	3	" "
Hogs, . . .	6 a 7	each,
Fowls, . . .	3	per dozen,
Pumpkins, . . .	10	" hundred,
Melons, . . .	6	" "
Beans, . . .	4	" bushel,
Onions, . . .	4	" barrel,

"The settlers have built themselves snug wooden houses; and considering the short period they have been on the island, they deserve much credit for the exertions they have made in clearing the ground, it being very thickly wooded with considerable underbrush. The cabbage tree affords them excellent material for fences, &c. The greatest difficulty they had to encounter, was the transporting of timber from the woods to the places where they wished to use it, a distance of three or four miles. For the first two years, they had only four natives of the Sandwich islands to assist them; they have now eleven males and nine females. But this number is totally insufficient should the whale ships continue to resort there for supplies of vegetables, wood, and water.—The settlers have been put to great inconvenience by the masters of some of the whale ships turning refractory seamen on shore. These men, having no employment, and being generally too lazy to work, have become a heavy tax to the quiet settlers, who have been obliged to furnish them with food. In 1833, the whaler *Cadmus* turned fifteen men on shore, among whom were several daring characters, who put the settlers at defiance. But not being inclined to work, eight of them attempted to cross over in a whale boat to the south island, a distance of twenty-five miles; but they all perished, the boat having been upset by the strong tide ripples; the remainder have since left the island in different vessels.

"Port St. George is admirably situated for the whalers who go to the coast of Japan, being immediately in their way; and they are on the fishing ground at the very entrance of the harbor. There is no doubt that in a very few years, when the port becomes more frequented, vessels which, after the whaling season is over on the Japan coast, have had generally to repair to Guam one of the Ladrone islands, or to the Sandwich islands, to refit and procure a supply of vegetables, &c., will find Port St. George to afford them every facility, and save much time and expense. It usually takes about five weeks to reach the Sandwich islands, after the season is over. Many masters of ships have thought the place unsafe, from the circumstance of the loss of the *William*, in 1826. But it is very clear sho

was lost through neglect. Vessels having good ground tackle need have no apprehensions for their safety. We remained in the port forty-two days, and had two strong gales in September, which the vessel rode out well. There are generally one or two gales every year; but they are not regular as to time. The settlers look for bad weather in May and October. The sea yields a good supply of fish, and plenty of green turtle during the proper season. It would be a great safeguard to the settlers, should government deem the place of sufficient consequence to induce them to send out a person vested with authority, who would put a stop to the masters of ships leaving any of their crews behind, as they have done hitherto. There are twenty-six Europeans on the islands, English, American, and Portuguese, exclusive of the Sandwich islanders, mentioned above. The tree, to which a sheet of copper was nailed by H. M. S. Blossom, in 1827, stating that the islands had been taken possession of on behalf of his Britannic majesty, having been cut down, the copper is now affixed to the house built by Wittrein and his companions, after the loss of the *William*, in 1826."

ART. V. *Universal peace: obstacles to it in the character and government of nations, particularly of China and Japan; with remarks on the means best fitted to remove these obstacles.*

ON the second return of Louis XVIII, marshal Ney and count Lavalette were sentenced to death. Ney was shot; but the count made his escape from prison, and fled from his country. After a few years, he was permitted to return to Paris, where he died in 1830. His memoir was published the next year, and contains the following "image of war," which appeared to him while in prison: "I dreamed," says Lavalette, "that I was standing in the rue St. Honore, at the corner of the rue de l'Echelle. A melancholy darkness spread around me; all was still, nevertheless a low and uncertain sound soon arose. All of a sudden, I perceived at the bottom of the street, and advancing towards me, a troop of cavalry; the men and horses, however, were all flayed. The men held torches in their hand, the red flames of which illuminated faces without skin, and bloody muses. Their hollow eyes rolled fearfully in their vast sockets; their mouths opened from ear to ear, and helmets of hanging flesh covered their hideous heads. The horses dragged along their own skins in the kennels, which overflowed with blood on both sides. Pale and disheveled women appeared and disappeared alternately at the windows in dismal silence; low, inarticulate groans filled the air; and I remained in the street alone, pet-

rified with horror, and deprived of strength sufficient to seek my safety by flight. This horrible troop continued passing in a rapid gallop, and casting frightful looks at me. Their march, I thought, continued for five hours; and they were followed by an immense number of artillery, wagons full of bleeding corpses, whose limbs still quivered; a disgusting smell of blood and bitumen almost choked me." (*Calumet.*)

It is not surprising that the count, who had followed Napoleon as his aid de camp through Europe, Egypt, and Syria, should in the solitude of a prison have been haunted by images of war. For often on the field of battle he had witnessed scenes no less horrible than those which passed before him while he was standing in the rue St. Honore. With the narrative of these bloody conflicts, the people of Christendom are familiar. But while the western world is known to have been, from time immemorial, the theatre of a continued series of wars 'offensive and defensive,' the eastern nations, it is supposed by many, have enjoyed the most profound peace and the most unbounded prosperity: and China and Japan, in particular, by excluding foreigners from their dominions, have in a great measure prevented the occasions of war, and secured for themselves the highest blessings of civil society. Those, however, who are acquainted with the true history of these countries, know that this is a wrong view of the case; and we think that any one who carefully compares the character and governments of the eastern nations with those of the west, will be led to this conclusion. For the moral qualities which give rise to wars are not less prevalent in the eastern, than in the western, hemisphere.

Into whatever form the government of a nation is moulded, if its principles are just, and the character of the rulers and people is marked by intelligence, probity, kindness, and industry, it can hardly be otherwise than good. On the other hand, if wrong principles predominate, and ignorance, idleness, mendacity, injustice, cruelty, and the like, gain the ascendancy, the government—no matter what may be its form—will be bad. In the government of a nation, therefore, we have a criterion by which we may estimate those moral qualities, which as they are either good or bad will tend to promote peace or war. It sometimes happens, moreover, that in the government there are collected and combined nearly all the intellectual energies of a nation. When corrupt, therefore, instead of being an organ of good to the people, it becomes a most fearful engine of destruction; and to the establishment of universal peace, it presents an obstacle exceedingly difficult to be removed or overcome. "Of all the plagues which have visited the family of man," says a late writer, "not one, nor all combined, have been so fully charged with mischief and malignity, as those which have fallen upon it under the specious name of government, at least as civil government has been hitherto conducted. And yet strange as it may appear, to no species of calamity are men in general so insensible; from none are they so slow in speaking themselves free. They are so accustomed to

the yoke, that they wear it with servile weakness. The irresistible spell of government steals upon the faculties of infancy, insinuates itself into the opening sentiments of youth, twines itself with the matured conclusions of manhood, and retains its inveterate grasp on the hoary prejudices of age. It is a giant delusion, from which only the genius of Christianity can set its victims free. It comes armed with a *prescriptive authority* to silence questioning, and to perpetuate its abominations."

In whatever light we look at the Chinese empire, whether we examine the moral qualities of the rulers and people, or the structure of its government, we shall find very serious obstacles to the establishment of permanent peace. These obstacles are not of recent origin, they are coeval with the earliest history of the nation; and in coming down to the present time they have not been diminished, but rather increased, by the change of dynasties, and by the revolutions and counter-revolutions which have almost without interruption agitated and convulsed this empire. Anterior to the Heä dynasty, which (according their own chronology,) arose more than four thousand years ago, the inhabitants of China were very barbarous and uncivilized, and the government was cruel and despotic. The people lived in a savage state, and groaned beneath the oppression of violent, passionate, and warlike chieftains.

The Heä dynasty occupied the throne four hundred and thirty-nine years, and numbered seventeen monarchs: a brief examination of their successive reigns will show to what a limited extent the country enjoyed peace and prosperity under their administration. Yu, the first emperor of this line, began to reign B. C. 2205. He was an adopted heir of the throne, and soon had to contend against the son of the preceding monarch, who endeavored to raise rebellion and expel the stranger. But his attempt failed. The reign of this monarch did not exceed ten years, and is memorable for the introduction of *strong drink* among the Chinese. "In the time of Yu," says the historian, "Eteih made spirituous liquor (*tscow*); Yu drank of it and liked it; but immediately banished Eteih from his presence, and interdicted its use; saying, if succeeding generations use strong drink they will destroy the empire." The interdict seems to have remained in force but a short time; for we find both rulers and people soon indulging in the free use of the forbidden cup. Teke, the second emperor, had scarcely ascended the throne, when the peace of the empire was disturbed by a war with a tributary prince, who ill-treated his subjects and aspired to supreme authority. The third emperor, at once abandoned the care of the government to weak and wicked hands, and gave himself wholly to irregular passions. His palace was filled with base women. He spent whole weeks and months in hunting wild beasts, and allowed his dogs and horses to ravage the country. The people complained bitterly of his tyranny; and at length arose, and having made him prisoner, sent him into banishment, and placed his brother on the throne. The general, who took the lead in these measures, soon

became incensed against the emperor, and resolved to extirpate him and his whole family. But before he had time to execute this wicked purpose, the emperor died, and was succeeded by his son Seäng. This monarch, with a view probably, to appease the wrath of his father's sworn enemy, placed him at the head of his army. This gave the traitor an opportunity to execute his favorite plan, which he entrusted to one of his creatures, named Hantso. But this 'ambitious villain' had no sooner dispatched the emperor, than he turned against the traitor, destroyed both him and his family, except the empress, and usurped the imperial authority.

While the usurper was endeavoring to establish himself on the throne, the empress, who had fled to the mountains, gave birth to a son; who, as soon as he arrived to the age of manhood, was placed at the head of an army by the friends of his father. Hantso was taken prisoner, and put to an infamous death, and Shaoukang, the young prince, was placed on the throne of his ancestors.

Choo and Hwac, the seventh and eighth emperors, were but little disturbed by wars and insurrections; the latter, however, soon became effeminate, gathered around him a herd of eunuchs, neglected the government, and passed his whole time in reveling and debauchery. Mang, his son and successor, imitated the vices of his father. The tenth and eleventh emperors, Seë and Keäng, seem to have maintained their authority without opposition. After a reign of fifty-nine years, Keäng at his death appointed his son to the throne; but he was immediately expelled by his uncle, who having reigned twenty-one years was succeeded by his own son. This emperor was distinguished only for his imbecility and vices. He retained the crown, however, till his death; it then reverted to Kungkea, the lawful heir. This was the fourteenth emperor of the Heä dynasty, and one of the most effeminate and debased princes that ever reigned. His successor trod in the footsteps of his father, and made his palace the seat of the most infamous pleasures. The sixteenth emperor occupied the throne nineteen years, and had the misfortune of being the father of Keë, the worst of men and the last of this line of emperors.

Keë reigned fifty-two years. His career was marked by horrible cruelties and bestial excesses. His wife was, if possible, more wicked than himself. Her commands were blindly obeyed; and the blood of their innocent subjects was daily shed to gratify her savage humor. The emperor and his imperial consort both indulged in the most abominable excesses, without the least regard for the welfare of the people. These licentious and tyrannical proceedings produced a general revolt, and fierce and bloody contests ensued. Nor did these cease until Keë fled from the empire, and a new dynasty was established under the auspices of Chingtang, its first emperor. Thus, during a period of more than three hundred years, the empire was in constant agitation, the people were harassed by wars, and oppressed by the cruelties of unrighteous rulers.

The two next dynasties occupied a period somewhat exceeding

fifteen hundred years in duration. Their histories abound with descriptions of wars, usurpations, intrigues, and their legitimate attendants. A single one of these descriptions must suffice. Chowsin, the last monarch of the Shang dynasty, ascended the throne B. C. 1143, and reigned thirty-two years. He married the infamous and impious Take, whom he had taken captive in war. They both gave themselves up to wild extravagance and unrestrained sensuality. They laid out extensive gardens; formed menageries filled with horses, dogs, rare animals, and curious birds. To feed these, and the crowds of idle people around them, they caused large granaries to be built. They made also a lake of wine, and surrounded it with trees loaded with provisions. In this retreat they collected vast multitudes of men and women, and allowed them to pass their time in debauchery, drunkenness, and other excesses, of which it is a shame even to speak. "Profligacy to this extent is more than the common sense of mankind, in the worst of times, can approve." The emperor and his court fell into contempt; which Take, instead of attributing to the right cause, ascribed to the lightness of the ordinary punishments, and to the easy death to which criminals were subjected. Hence new instruments of torture were introduced; and criminals were burnt alive. At length, Woo wang, 'the martial king,' and the founder of the Chow dynasty, determined to destroy these monsters. Large armies took the field; the emperor fled to a stage which he had erected for purposes of pleasure, set fire to it, and perished in the ruins; the wicked and unhappy Take, in the meantime, was cut down by the sword of Woo wang.

After the overthrow of the Chow dynasty, seven distinct states, and each with its own chieftain, strove for supremacy; six of their leaders were exterminated, and the other became master of the empire. The cruelty and disorders of this period are without a parallel. Nor did these scenes of confusion cease until the Han dynasty arose. During the reign of this line of monarchs, a period of more than four hundred years, the empire frequently enjoyed peace and advanced in prosperity; but often it was otherwise, and the prosperity enjoyed, only served to prepare more ample materials for the approaching scenes of rapine and human butchery. After the fall of this family, the storm of war raged with greater or less fury till the Tang dynasty was established, A. D. 618. The early part of this dynasty forms one of the most peaceful and prosperous periods in the whole history of China. Though its first monarchs were able to keep the people in subjection, yet their successors were not. The third monarch of this line placed the reigns of government in the hands of the empress, who assumed the title of "queen of heaven." She poisoned several of her own children, and caused others of the imperial family to be cut in pieces. Cruelty and excesses of every kind continued to increase, until the dynasty became extinct. Then the *woo tae*, or "five dynasties," arose. These were times of confusion. Luxury, intrigue, and murder, filled the court; discontent, rapine, and bloody wars, the land.

It is worthy of remark, that the short dynasties, and the times immediately preceding and following the change of the successive dynasties, have invariably been distinguished by extensive and bloody wars. Witness the overthrow of the Sung dynasty, A. D. 1278. The conquerors on taking prisoners the leaders of the enemy fastened them to earts, and thus tore their bodies in pieces, and butchered the people in such numbers that 'the blood flowed in sounding torrents.' Thousands perished by their own hands, and tens of thousands by the swords of the enemy. The monarchs of the Yuen dynasty ruled with an iron rod, and endeavored to extend their sway beyond the limits of China. In a single expedition against Japan, it is computed that a hundred thousand men perished. The late Ming dynasty maintained its supremacy two hundred and seventy-six years: and its reign was characterized by usurpation, intrigue, insurrections, robberies, and wars with the Tartars, who became masters of the empire, A. D. 1644. The Mantchou conquerors, like those of the Yuen dynasty, entered the country with sword in hand; and established a domination which remains to this day. In 1618, the Mantchou prince, when about to invade the Chinese empire, wrote down seven great grievances of which he had to complain, and which he resolved to revenge. These he announced to heaven in the following words:

"Ere my grandfather had injured a blade of grass, or usurped an inch of ground that belonged to Ming, Ming causelessly commenced hostilities and injured him. This is the *first* thing to be revenged. Although Ming commenced hostilities, we, still desirous of peace, agreed to engrave it on a stone, and take a solemn oath in confirmation of it, that neither Mantchou nor Chinese should pass the respective limits; whoever dared to do so, should, the moment he was seen, be destroyed; and that the party which connived at any violation of this treaty, should be exposed to the judgments of heaven. Notwithstanding this oath, Ming again passed the frontiers with troops to assist a people called the Yëhieh. This is the *second* thing to be revenged. When a subject of Ming passed over the frontier and committed depredations in my territory, I, agreeably to the oath above stated, destroyed him. But Ming turned his back on the former treaty confirmed with an oath; complained of what I had done; put to death an envoy of mine; and having seized ten men on the frontiers, caused them to be slain. This is the *third* thing to be revenged. Ming with troops passed the frontier to assist the Yëhieh, and caused my daughter, already betrothed, to have her destination changed, and be given to another person of the Mongol nation. This is the *fourth* thing to be revenged. For many generations, I held, as my frontier, the hill Chaeho and places adjacent: my people cultivated it; but Ming has refused to allow them to reap, and has expelled them from thence. This is the *fifth* thing to be revenged. The Yëhieh committed crimes against heaven; but Ming acted with partiality, and gave entire credit to their statements, while he sent a special envoy to me bearing a letter, in which he vilified and in-

sulted me. This is the *sixth* thing to be revenged. Formerly the people of Hätä, assisting the Yëhieh, twice came and invaded me. I announced it to heaven, and reduced the subjects of Hätä. Ming formed a conspiracy with him and others, to attack me and restore him his kingdom; and in consequence, the Yëhieh several times invaded the territory of Hätä. In the contentions of neighboring states, those who obey the will of heaven conquer; those who oppose the intentions of heaven are defeated and destroyed. How can those who have died by the sword, be restored to life! Or those who have obtained the people, return them again! Heaven establishes the prince of a great nation! Why does Ming feel resentment against my country alone! The 'Ihlun and other nations united their forces against me, to destroy me. Heaven rejected 'Ihlun for commencing bloodshed; but my nation flourished as spring. Ming is now assisting the Yëhieh, who are under severe reprehension and wrath; and is thereby opposing the will of heaven, reversing right and wrong, acting in the most irregular manner. This is the *seventh* thing to be revenged."

Thus impiously, in the name of heaven and to execute divine vengeance, the Mantchou Tartar conquerors took up arms. "To *revenge* these seven injuries," said their chieftain, "I now go to reduce to order (i. e. to subjugate) the dynasty of Ming." And forthwith he placed himself at the head of his army and commenced hostilities. (See Morrison's View of China, page 10, also *Tung hwa luh*.) The chief Teënmïng had already taken the title of emperor, and 'vowed to celebrate the funeral of his father with the slaughter of two hundred thousand Chinese.' (M. Martini.) The province of Leaoutung was soon overrun; towns and cities were sacked and burnt; and multitudes of the inhabitants 'annihilated.' This threw the Chinese court into consternation; and troops in great numbers were summoned from every part of the empire to resist the invaders. Among other commanders, who were mustered for this purpose, "there was," says the author just named, "one heroic lady, whom we may call the Amazon of China. She brought with her three thousand, from the remote province of Szechuen, all carrying not only masculine minds, but men's habits also, and assuming titles more becoming men than women. This noble and generous lady gave many rare proofs of her courage and valor, not only against these Tartars, but also against the rebels which afterwards rose against the emperor. She came to the war to supply the place of her son, who being as yet a child, was unable to perform the homage and duty which he owed to his lord."

Teënmïng, the new self-styled emperor, 'ordained of heaven to tranquilize the disordered nations,' kept the field till 1627, when, after having caused the death of many tens of thousands by brutal fierceness, "himself augmented the number of the dead." His son Teëntsung succeeded him in the command of the troops, and continued the hostilities against the Chinese, who for a time, sustained the war with courage. They met the enemy in the mountain passes

of Corea, and in league with the inhabitants of that country, formed two armies and gave battle to the enemy. "The Tartars finding themselves thus encompassed before and behind, and without any means to escape but by dint of sword, fought most desperately, sustaining the shock of two armies. The fury of the battle was such as China never before saw, for (it is strange to write, yet very true,) of the three armies, none were victorious; but all, in a manner, were destroyed. Of the Tartarian army fifty thousand were found wanting. The Corean army lost seventy thousand. And few or none escaped of the Chinese." Notwithstanding these losses, the war was continued with unabated fury on the part of the invaders, who more by the power of 'vast sums of gold' than by their prowess found their way to Peking, and laid siege to the imperial city. The traitor who brought the enemy to the capital, being summoned before the emperor, was convicted of his treachery and strangled. The Tartars now raised the siege, but laid waste all the adjacent country.

The affairs of the empire at that time, wore a forbidding aspect. The Tartar chief adopted every expedient which he could devise to win by favor or subdue by force. Those who submitted freely, he treated with kindness, which induced many, both of the people and officers, to fly to him for that protection and support which they could not obtain under their own rulers. On the other hand, among the Chinese, luxury, avarice, and intrigue, prevailed in the imperial court; and throughout the provinces, thefts, robberies, revolts, and insurrections, became daily more and more frequent and extensive. Eight very considerable armies of rebels were soon marshaled; and the ringleader of each contended for supreme dominion over the empire. These freebooters not only fought against the imperial forces, but strove to supplant each other, and succeeded to such an extent that soon only two of the leaders were left alive. These two prevailed on the partizans of those who were killed 'to follow their own ensigns and fortune;' and this they were the more ready to do since they were certain of death should they fall into the hands of the imperialists. The strength of the two rebel armies was now great; and they were so equally matched that neither dared to attack the other. Accordingly, they took different parts of the country; and one of them, under the command of *Le Tszeching* occupied the northern provinces, Shense and Honan; the other, headed by the daring and cruel *Chang Heenchung*, spread over the provinces of Szechuen, Hoonan, and Hoopih.

Le, with an immense army of 'rascally vagabonds,' soon encamped before Kacfung the capital of Honan, resolved to reduce the place by siege. The city was so poorly furnished with provisions, that at the end of six months its inhabitants began to devour each other. A pound of rice was worth a pound of silver, and dead men's flesh was sold publicly in the shambles. At length, the imperial troops arrived to relieve the besieged; but instead of attacking Le and his rascalions, the imperialists resolved to drown them, and accordingly opened the sluices of the Hwang ho. This was in the autumn of

1642; the waters of the river were high, and, the embankments giving way, they not only routed the enemy and destroyed their camp, but broke through the walls of the city and overwhelmed the whole of its inhabitants. Three hundred thousand perished by this inundation, and the city became one vast pool for the monsters of the deep. Driven from this city, Le led his bands to the capital of Shense, which was soon taken and pillaged, and all the surrounding country laid waste. The rebel leader now took the title of emperor, and directed his steps towards Peking. All the attempts made to stop his progress were without effect. The emperor and his eunuchs were greatly perplexed. But their case was hopeless. His majesty, to prevent his daughter from falling into the hands of the rebels, put her to the sword, and then laid violent hands on himself. The empress, and many of the court and of the inhabitants of the city, followed his example. Thus Le Tszeching became master of the palace, and placed himself on the imperial throne; and havoc and bloodshed were made the order of the day.

This occurred in 1644, and while a large Chinese army was in the field fighting against the Mantelou Tartars on the north. The leader of this army now proposed an alliance with those whom he was endeavoring to subdue. His terms were accepted; and the combined army forthwith fell back upon Peking, and Le and his myrmidons fled. The Chinese general went in pursuit of them. This was the hour of triumph on the part of the Tartars. Large reinforcements of their own troops were already entering the capital; and all the intreaties of the Chinese that they would leave the city, were vain. At this crisis Teentsung, who had changed his name to Tsungtih, died; and his son Shunche was proclaimed emperor, not of China only, but of the world. The Chinese general who had brought in the Tartars to his aid, was immediately declared a tributary, and compelled to fight against his own countrymen. Le and his associates were exterminated; and in a few months the four northern provinces were subjugated. The tonsure was made the sign of submission; non-compliance in this punctilio, was high treason; and many of the proud sons of Han, rather than lose their hair, sacrificed their heads.

At Nanking, a member of the late imperial line was proclaimed emperor, who forthwith sued for peace. His request was rejected; and while preparing to take the field, a new claimant to the throne appeared. The Chinese were divided; and thus compelled to fly before their enemies: both of the leaders, and all their kindred were seized and executed. One city after another gave way in quick succession, until the conquerors reached the southern provinces, where a new emperor had been proclaimed, and the people were prepared for resistance. Canton did not submit till 1650, when after a siege of more than eleven months the city was opened by a traitor, and 700,000 of the people were exterminated, and every house left desolate. The storm of war now raged with great fury in various parts of the empire. Pirates ravaged the coast; on the north and

south, several places revolted from the Tartars; and in the west, the cruel Chang Hechung, by fire and sword, spread death and desolation in every direction. Chang commenced his bloody career at the same time with Le Tszeeing. As a prelude to his tyrannical acts, he butchered eight of the grandees of the imperial family, who had fled to Szechuen. Often when offended with a single individual, he would cause a whole family or neighborhood to be slaughtered. A physician who was unable to preserve the life of his favorite hangman, when attacked with a violent disease, he caused to be killed; and not content with this, he sacrificed one hundred of that profession to the shade of the hangman. For a fault of one of his soldiers, two thousand were massacred. His chief officers often fell a prey to his fury. Five hundred eunuchs, whom he had taken from the grandees of the Ming family, he commanded to be put to death, because one of them presumed to address him by his proper name. At one time he collected twenty thousand priests, and "sent them all to hell, to visit the masters whom they had served." At another time, he decreed the slaughter of 140,000 of his soldiers: this horrible butchery lasted four days; and he commanded many of the slain to have their skins peeled off, and filled with straw, and with their heads sewed on, carried publicly to the villages where they were born. On one occasion, he assembled eighteen thousand literati; and entering the hall where they were collected, in cold blood bid his soldiers to slay them. On another occasion, having taken prisoners the whole inhabitants of a large city, about six hundred thousand, he commanded them all, men, women, and children, to be bound hand and foot, and put to death in a single day. In this way he proceeded from slaughtering to slaughter, till the whole province of Szechuen was made desolate, and his soldiers and their wives were almost the only persons left alive. The latter he resolved to sacrifice, and then carry his arms into the adjacent provinces. After proclaiming this purpose to his soldiers, and assuring them that they would find other 'exquisite women,' when in possession of the whole empire, he set them the example and gave up three hundred of his own 'beautiful maids' to the sword. The soldiers imitated the cruel tyrant, and 'cut off the heads of innumerable innocent women, as if they had been their mortal enemies.' (M. Martini.)

These destructive wars continued until the illustrious Kanghe gained complete sway over the whole of the ancient empire. According to a census taken A. D. 1710, which was the forty-eighth year of Kanghe's reign, it was found that the population of the empire had been reduced from sixty millions, to twenty-three millions of souls. This census may not have been accurately taken; the destruction of human life, however, was no doubt very great. From that time to the present, (one hundred and twenty-five years,) China has probably suffered less by the ravages of war, than during any other period in its history of equal length; and this fact has contributed much to establish the erroneous opinion that China has always enjoyed tranquillity and prosperity, and that its government is one of

the most perfect and peaceful that ever existed. Were bravery, heroism, and athletic habits, the only qualities which generate wars and fightings, we should not expect the sons of Han to do great execution with the sword. They are now, and they seem ever to have been, a timid and cowardly race. But the Tartars are not so, at least they were not, when they became masters of this empire, and bound the inhabitants fast in the chains of despotism.

The extent which this article already occupies, forbids us to enter on an examination of the history of the Japanese government, which, if we mistake not, is characterized by greater cruelties and excesses than those which darken the annals of China.

The brief view which we have now taken of the Chinese government, shows what have been the obstacles which it has hitherto presented to the establishment of permanent and universal peace. These obstacles, perhaps, were never greater than at this hour. True, no desolating armies have marched through these provinces during the last 125 years; but on the western frontiers there have been very frequent and bloody wars, and some of them are of recent date. And even in China Proper, the profound tranquillity which the successive 'sons of heaven' have vouchsafed to the black haired race, has been not very unlike that of the slave ship and the prison-house, where every subject has the heart, but not the power to disturb the peace. The animosity towards the conquerors has been suppressed, but not annihilated. Witness the numerous secret societies which are known to exist, and which were formed and are maintained with the avowed object of resisting "the tyrants." And this long cherished hatred may, at no very distant time, burst forth with a power which nothing can withstand. While we have been writing this paragraph, a report has reached us of new insurrections in the province of Szechuen.

In summing up the evils which hinder the establishment of that permanent peace, which is ere long to become universal, they naturally divide themselves into two classes; one including those which originate in the structure of the government; the other, those which grow out of the moral character of the nation. We are not unmindful of the divine declaration, that the powers that be are ordained of God, and that on this account every subject is bound to yield to them obedience. There are surely limits, however, beyond which those powers have no right to pass. In some respects the structure of this government is designed to destroy, and so far as its influence goes it does destroy, those rights which are essential to the establishment and maintenance of peace. In that state of society which we contemplate, when there will be no man on earth to hurt or destroy his fellow, the sword, and the cannon, and the battle ship may exist; and there may be chains, and manacles, and prisons; yet for all these there will be but little use; because the dominion of truth and justice will be complete; the rights and duties of rulers and subjects will be clearly defined and understood; and those rights will be enjoyed, and those duties performed.

The assumption of divine authority, (the first, the chief evil which originates in the structure of the Chinese government,) presents great obstacles to the extension of those principles which are absolutely necessary for the establishment of peace. This assumption constitutes the emperor the vicegerent of the Most High; makes his dominion absolute and universal; and requires all under heaven to yield him obedience. In this attitude he interdicts the worship of the Almighty, and claims for himself divine honors; and those who refuse to pay them, the government regards as barbarous and cruel *enemies*, and wages against them a war of extermination. Proceeding on this principle, the government destroys the personal liberty of its subjects; none of whom may pass beyond the frontiers of the empire, or hold any intercourse with foreigners. Those who presume to disobey these restrictions are declared outlaws, worthy of death. In this way all the avenues to the introduction of every species of useful knowledge are sealed up; and the inhabitants are regarded as prisoners or slaves. If they remain quiet, perform all the duties which their masters require, and exercise no will or choice of their own, they may go free within prescribed limits. Moreover, the government affords but very imperfect security for the property of the people. In a word, it acknowledges no rights in its subjects. Such is the unnatural, the unreasonable, and the unrighteous condition in which the monarch of this empire hold his subjects; he robs them of liberty of conscience; annihilates their personal rights; and guarantees to them no security. While in such a condition, brute force may hold the nation tranquil; but in the meantime it generates, strengthens, and augments both the principles and the materials of war.

Pride, deceit, falsehood, want of natural affection, thefts, robberies, murders, and such like, are the obstacles to the establishment of peace, which grow out of the character of the Chinese. These qualities, we know, everywhere spring up naturally from the human heart. But in China there is nothing to check them; on the contrary, there is very much to cherish and foster them; and they here gain a maturity which is quite incredible. The pride of the Chinese is like that of the Turk; it leads him to look down with the utmost contempt on the foreigner, as belonging to an order of beings far inferior to himself. Hence he calls him a barbarian, a devil, and treats him accordingly. Those who are the best acquainted with the Chinese, uniformly bear the strongest testimony concerning their want of veracity and honesty. Conscience and moral sense are dead; and truth and justice are almost unknown. They *fear* to tell the truth; but utter falsehood without remorse. There are exceptions; yet what we here affirm is the prevailing and acknowledged character of the nation.—Our limits forbid us to examine one by one all the evils which we have enumerated. Such evils may be suppressed for a time by the arm of civil authority; but let that be broken, and they burst forth like the tornado to desolate the land. Witness the thousands and the tens of thousands which fell by the machinations

and cruelties of Chang Heénchung and Le Tszeching.—There are other evils of a mixed nature which hinder the establishment of peace. The arms which overran the country, have in the lapse of time become so weak and beggarly as to be utterly inadequate to keep the nation tranquil. Hence, when pirates and banditti infest the country, as they do continually, those who cannot be exterminated are subdued by other means,—some are bribed and others are appointed to office. In this way the recent insurrections at Læén-chow and Formosa were quelled. The extensive sale of offices; the thrifty systems of smuggling, &c., are to be reckoned in the same category: for so far as they extend, and they are not confined to narrow limits, they destroy the principles of peace and order, and lead to confusion, wrong, and outrage.

In view of all the considerations which have been brought forward in this article, the conclusion seems irresistible that very efficient means must be employed to remove the existing evils, else war, civil or foreign, or both, will soon break up the foundations of the government and again deluge the empire with blood. The country seems fast hastening to a crisis. With an immense population, its revenues are insufficient to answer the demands of the government; and its productions, to supply the necessities of the people. There has not been one prosperous year since the present emperor has sat upon the throne. Many of the signs of the times, it is said, are like those which preceded the fall of the Ming dynasty. Nor should we be surprised if the Mantchou reign should soon terminate. Still it may continue for tens of years, or for centuries. We have no hope, however, that permanent and universal peace will be established in this land, until truth—political, social, religious truth—becomes predominant. Those means, therefore, which are the best calculated to hasten the diffusion of useful knowledge and the promulgation of truth, are the best fitted to establish peace in this country, as well as in all other nations of the earth. But here, the promulgation of truth and the diffusion of knowledge are interdicted; and hence those measures which will soonest remove this interdict, are such as should first of all be put in requisition.—The specification of those means and measures, the methods in which they should be employed, and the motives for employing them, must be reserved for another article.

ART. V. *Chinese metallic types: proposals for casting a font of Chinese types by means of steel punches in Paris; attempt made in Boston to stereotype from wooden blocks.*

Our only object in recurring to this subject, is to present our readers with a short account of two new attempts to print in the Chinese language; one in Paris by means of moveable types, and the

other in Boston by stereotype plates. Our information concerning the metallic types made by M. Pauthier, is derived entirely from a prospectus lately published in Paris. From a specimen of the types which accompanies the prospectus, it appears that the body of the character is smaller, and the face rather stiffer, than those of Mr. Dyer's manufacture; they are, however, decidedly the best which we have seen made in Europe. The size of the types, as near as can be ascertained by the specimen which we have before us, is Great Primer. The prospectus, after some remarks on the little attention heretofore paid to the study of Chinese literature, as compared with some other Asiatic languages, states that it is partly attributable to the scarcity of books and the difficulty of procuring them, and partly to the want of types to publish European editions. The same difficulty "existed in Sanskrit, before the munificence of the king of Prussia gave a font of Sanskrit types to many learned bodies." It then proceeds to say.

"We desire also to enjoy the same advantage in the Chinese, although the difficulty may be much greater, since, not being an alphabetic language, it cannot be reduced to as small a number of typographical elements as other languages. This advantage will be great, for all sinologues, all learned bodies, and all printers, by subscribing can procure either a font, or the copper matrices, of the Chinese types we announce.

"M. Pauthier, member of the Asiatic society, after having completed his translation of sir H. T. Colebrooke's Essay on the Philosophy of the Hindoos, formed the design of publishing a translation of the principal Chinese philosophers, with the original text on the opposite page. Desirous of giving to the editions of the political, moral, and philosophical works of Confucius and Laontze, which he has announced, all the typographical perfection which can now be obtained in Europe, he addressed himself to M. Marcellin-Légrand, one of the most skillful type cutters in Paris, who, for the interest of science, was willing to undertake the cutting of steel punches for a font of 2000 of the most common Chinese characters; which number may be increased from time to time, *on the application of the subscribers to this fundamental font*, according to the need which they may have for them. These Chinese characters, of which a specimen is here given, are only fourteen *points* on each side, a dimension which permits them to be used with ordinary letter press, without injuring their perfect neatness. * * *

"But it was not sufficient to have an elegant and choice font of Chinese types; it was also necessary to find out a method of *composing* and *distributing* them, which was as easy as that of ordinary types. This has been attained by a very simple process: the 2000 characters which are to be delivered to subscribers, have been arranged under the 214 *radicals* or *keys* of the Chinese language; and each one will have the *number* that is given to it in this classification, cut in relief in the *nick*, which commonly serves to enable the compositor to recognise the front of the letter; so that a compositor,

whatever may be his degree of intelligence, will find no more difficulty in composing Chinese, by this process, than numerical figures, since each character is indicated to him by its number.

"A more detailed prospectus, with the terms of subscription and the price, will be sent to all who may make application for it at the polyanatype foundry of M. Marcellin-Legrand, No. 99, *rue du Cherche-Midi, Paris.*"

If we understand the plan here proposed of cutting the number of the radical upon the body of the type, it appears to be one attended with some difficulty. The number of different characters included under some of the radicals amounts to several hundreds: are all of these to have the same number?

The attempt to cast stereotype plates of the Chinese language from wooden blocks was made in Boston in the spring of 1834. The history of it we give as it appeared in the *Missionary Herald*, published in Boston, for July, 1834, p. 268. "Somewhat more than a year since, the thought occurred to one of the officers of the Board (for Foreign Missions), that plates might be obtained from the engraved blocks, by means of which the Chinese execute their printing. * * * The subject was also mentioned to a number of intelligent friends at New York, nearly all of whom were struck with the possibility of substituting metal plates for Chinese wooden blocks. In June of last year, a letter was sent to a missionary of the Board at Canton, requesting him to procure a set of Chinese blocks, containing the text of some tract, and forward them for an experiment, together with a quantity of Chinese printing paper. He did so; and in April last, a set of blocks was received, containing *Christ's Sermon on the Mount*, of twenty pages or ten blocks. From these, two sets of stereotype plates have been cast in Boston, and put in a perfect condition for printing like any other stereotype plates, and a small edition of the tract has been printed at the office where the printing of the Board is done.

"So far as is known to the members of the Prudential Committee and the officers of the Board, the tract just named is the first Chinese book ever stereotyped, and the first Chinese book ever printed in the United States. Should the expectations which are cherished on this subject be realized, the common printing press may at once be employed in printing Chinese, without the enormous labor and expense of procuring metallic types, which must be multiplied to many thousand characters before the font will be complete;—the Chinese characters representing ideas not sounds. The plates will also be far more durable than the wooden blocks, used by the Chinese printers, and the printing can be executed with manifold more rapidity. For newspapers and ephemeral works, as in this country, moveable types will be necessary; but for the printing of the Holy Scriptures, and other standard books and tracts, the stereotype printing will be as available for the hundreds of millions of China, as it is for the nations of Europe and America."

A set of the stereotype plates mentioned above, reached China last October. They were cast from blocks in every respect similar to those used by the Chinese, and great care was taken to have them well cut; the experiment, therefore, may be regarded as a fair one. To the advantages mentioned in the extract from the Herald, "that the plates will be far more durable than the wooden blocks used by the Chinese printer, and the printing executed with manifold more rapidity," we would add one or two more which occur to us. The number of plates can be increased to any extent, and at a much less expense than duplicates of blocks can be cut; and these can be distributed among several distant offices, and copies of the books struck off at the place where they are needed. The space occupied by plates is about one half that of blocks; and the white ants, those voracious and insatiable depredators in a Chinese printing office, can make little havoc among leaden plates. The ravages committed by these insects are often very serious. Sometimes a set of blocks, which have not been used for a long time, is taken out to print a new edition of a book, and on the first impression, the surface of the wood falls in, the interior of the block having been completely eaten out. Stereotype plates, as observed in the Herald, can be used in the common press, but wooden blocks cannot; and they will have all that ease and beauty of character prized by the Chinese, which is so difficult to be attained in moveable types.

There are, however, *disadvantages* attending the use of stereotype plates, which it will be well to notice. Some of them are the same as attach to wooden blocks, and are inseparable from all such *massive* modes of printing. The plates, when cast, are as fixed as the blocks from which they were taken, and all the imperfections and unevenness of the one are transferred to the other. This was the case in the experiment which has been made; and many of the fine marks which are necessary to form a perfect character are wanting in the plate, because the block was imperfect. This defect is partly owing to the soft texture of the wood which the Chinese use for blocks, but more to their carelessness in cutting the fine strokes in the middle of the character. Harder wood, as box or ebony, might be employed, which would receive a higher finish than the softer kinds; but pieces of a sufficient size are very expensive, even if they could be procured. When the plate is cast, there are no means of correcting it, except by cutting a new block; and the liabilities of fracture in the hands of Chinese printers, who are not very careful with blocks, would be great. If the paper is to be printed on both sides, (for the common Chinese paper is capable of it,) only one page can be cut on a block, in order that the pages may be rightly *imposed* for folding the sheet; and the block used for stereotyping single pages, will be unfit for the usual mode of Chinese printing with double pages, and on only one side. The saving in paper, however, by this method, would be one half, and the thickness of the book would also be reduced nearly as much: both of which are important considerations in an extensive establishment. To this it may be ob-

jected, that the Chinese are so partial to their mode of making books, that they would refuse one which was printed on both sides of the leaf; but that such is or will be the fact no one can tell, until the experiment has been tried. It is very desirable also, to disabuse the Chinese of their unreasonable fondness for old custom, which would be the tendency of books which were neatly printed in this manner.

There is "an enormous expense" incurred in purchasing the materials and tools requisite for a stereotype foundry. This initial cost would be slowly reimbursed by the greater durability of the plates. A professed founder would be needed to superintend and teach the native workmen in his employ. An establishment for cutting blocks, with its attendant copyists, and printing presses also, in which to strike off impressions from the plates, would be indispensable to the foundry. Perhaps, however, the number of printing presses needed will be small, as the Chinese printer, with his brush and ink, can take impressions from the plates. This has been done; and although the appearance of the page is not so good as when printed in a press, or as when struck off from the blocks, yet it is fair and perfectly legible. The ink used by the Chinese is thinner than that made in Europe, and is much better adapted for printing on wood than on lead. Moreover, the number of works which are in such extensive and steady demand as to require stereotyping are very few, compared with the whole amount of printing hereafter to be done. It would be poor economy to stereotype a publication, the demand for which would barely wear out one set of blocks.

These remarks we have thrown out, to show what we apprehend would be the case, if this plan was carried into extensive operation, and not to put hindrances in the way of *any* plan to advance so desirable an object as the introduction of knowledge among the Chinese. In undertaking a work of such magnitude, it is extremely necessary to count well the cost, and devise those plans which in the end, will be the most economical and effective. We do not perceive why that mode of printing which is practiced with all other languages, is not applicable to the Chinese. If, because labor is cheap, books can be manufactured in China at as little expense by blocks, as they can be in Europe by the press, where labor is dearer, will they not be made much cheaper here, when the labor-saving machines of Europe are introduced? The number of characters which must be cast in order to print the common classes of books in the Chinese language, is about 4000; and even this number can be reduced one fourth or more, without serious inconvenience. Three fonts, each of this number of characters, will, we apprehend, amount to much less than can be found in extensive printing offices in Europe and America. According to Johnson, (*Typographia*, vol. 2, p. 31,) the number of sorts required in a full font of English, is 240, including accents. Ten or fifteen different fonts are not unusual, and together with fancy letter, flowers, &c., will make the number of sorts amount to several thousands. Characters that occur only once or twice in a book can be cut on tin or wood. Title pages and prefaces in the seal or running

character, can be cut on blocks, and stereotyped, and such we think will be the most feasible plan for those parts of the book. In the body of the book, the type is uniform, except in size; for books with notes, or dictionaries, only two or three fonts will be required. When a set of punches for moveable types is cut, the greatest part of the difficulty is overcome; and fonts of type may be obtained from one set of punches sufficient to supply any demand. We would therefore encourage, by all the means in our power, such undertakings as that of M. Pauthier in Paris, and of Mr. Dyer at Penang. Stereotype plates can then be cast from metallic types, which will equal those now seen in western countries, and far surpass, in neatness and finish, any taken from wooden blocks.

ART. VII. *Literary notices: 1. Prospectus of an Historical Sketch of the Portuguese settlement in Macao, and of the Roman Catholic church and mission in China; 2. the Anglochinese Kalendar for the year 1835; and 3. Chronica de Macao.*

1. *The prospectus for the historical sketch of Macao, &c.*, by Andrew Ljungstedt, kn., appeared in December last: since that time the work has been forwarded in duplicate, to the United States, where it is to be published with all convenient dispatch. The original of this work was published in 'two contributions to an historical sketch of Macao,'—the first in 1832, and the second in 1834, and both have been reviewed in the former numbers of the Repository. (Vol. I. p. 398; Vol. III. p. 288.) Some idea of the plan and character of the work may be formed from the following table of contents, copied and abridged from the prospectus.

Part first. Portuguese settlements in China.

I. Temporary settlements in China. Preliminary remarks.

1. Limpo—Lyangpo—Ningpo.
2. Chinchew—Tsenenchow—Tsenenchow foo.
3. Tamao—Tango—San shan—St. John's.
4. Lampacao—Lang-pih-kaou.

II. Fixed settlement of the Portuguese at Macao.

1. Historical narratives.
2. Topographical description.
3. Divisions: [a] parochial districts; public buildings; churches, &c.; senate-house; fortifications; [b] ports; Typa; inner harbor.
4. Population: preliminary remarks; [a] classes; natural subjects; Chinese vassals; foreigners; [b] public education; king's schools; royal college; &c.; [c] charitable institutions; [d] hospitals.

5. Government; preliminary remarks; [a] pure municipality; [b] senate; 1, domestic political influence on its subaltern officers, on the Christian population in general, on the military department, on the civil department, on the population; 2, domestic economical influence, on receipts, on expenditures; [c] constitution of Macao; preliminary remarks; 1, senate, its members, their duties, their prerogatives; 2, governors, the presidents over the senate, head of the military, &c.; 3, minister, vice president, and judge of the customs; 4, royal chest.
6. Foreign relations: [a] with Portugal; [b] Goa; [c] the Dutch; [d] the British; [e] with China, politically, judicially, diplomatically, &c.; [f] with Japan, Catholic mission, commerce, envoys, &c.; [g] with Manila; [h] with Timor; [i] with Batavia; [j] with Goa, commercially; [k] with Malacca; [l] with Siam, commercially, and diplomatically; [m] with Cochinchina, commercially, and politically. Actual state of trade at Macao.

III. Suburban settlements.

1. Green island—Tsing shan—Ilha verde.
2. Oritem or Oriteng.
3. Sundry lodges.

Part second; of the Roman Catholic church and mission in China.

I. Roman Catholic church at Macao.

1. King's patronage.
2. Hierarchy.
3. External rites.
4. Objections to Chinese recreations.
5. Actual state of the bishopric of Macao.

II. Roman Catholic mission in China. Preliminary remarks.

1. Missionaries.
2. Papal legates to China.

Supplementary chapter; description of the city of Canton, republished from the Chinese Repository, with the editor's permission.

Our opinion of the original "contributions" will be found in the reviews, to which we above alluded. The new work is much more elaborate than those essays; and if we may judge from a hasty perusal of a part of the manuscript, it is much better arranged and more accurate. The author has spared no pains in his researches, and he has had access to the most authentic sources of information. The following remarks are from his prospectus:

"The work will be enriched with four lithographic prints; two of them representing the funeral monument of St. Francis Xavier, erected on the island San shan, or St. John; two are plans of Macao; one of them drawn probably in 1655, the second delineated in 1834; one to face the other. The frontispiece of the work will be a lithographic view of the great landing place of Praya Grande at Macao. A copious index will refer the reader to the contents of the work, which will

make, it is supposed, from 350 to 370 pages full sized octavo, including the supplement. Were the author in his former prosperous situation, he would have sent his manuscript to the press without troubling any one; but his inability compels him to solicit assistance. Many years ago he employed a principal part of his property in establishing a *free school*, in which children of both sexes, whose parents were unable to defray the expenses of their education, are taught, together with reading and writing, the history and geography of their native country (Sweden), and also arithmetic, drawing, &c., so much as may be useful to youths, whose future destination will be to employ themselves in any branch of the mechanical arts. By the last report from the directors of the free school, published in 1833, the founder had the satisfaction to learn that 221 boys were under the daily tuition of an excellent professor, after the Lancasterian method; and that a house was preparing for the education of young girls. Forty-nine boys had that very year left the institution, where they had previously been instructed, by hired masters, in the first principles of different mechanical occupations; and they were then, according to their choice, placed with mechanics at whose hands each of them may acquire the requisite instruction for intelligent workmen.

"The net proceeds of the book are intended for my school, there to constitute a permanent fund; the annual interest of which shall be applied to the purchase of treatises and books, which teach how to simplify and improve the operations of the mechanical arts. By degrees a small library will thus be formed, by which the young men, who have had the advantage of being brought up at my school, and artificers of an inquiring mind may considerably advance their knowledge, and become efficient and useful members of society."

N. B. The price of the work will be *two dollars*, payable on delivery. A list for general subscription will be opened at the office of John Slade esq., editor of the Canton Register; and at the author's house, Macao, or, he being absent, at the house of J. G. Ullman, esq.

2. *The Anglochinese Kalendar for the year of the Christian era 1835: corresponding to the year of the Chinese cycle era 4472, or the 32d of the 75th cycle of sixty; being the 15th year of the reign of Taoukwang. Canton, China: printed at the Register press.*

This little work has made its appearance during the current month; and by the 'advertisement' we perceive that it comes out under the auspices of the editor of the Canton Register, and not as formerly under the editorship of Mr. Morrison. In addition to the useful matter contained in the former editions, the new editor has presented us with a *Chronicle of Events*, which he says "has been mostly compiled from the late Dr. Morrison's 'View of China for philological purposes;' now believed to be a scarce book." The chronological table in the 'View of China' commences A. D. 1816, and 'passes up the stream of time.' The 'chronicle of events' commences A. D. 1834, and in the same order ascends to the memorable days of 'Nen-wo-she, who melted stones and repaired the heavens.' We like the plan of a chronicle of events connected with Chinese history

very much, but cannot reconcile ourselves to the inverted order. To us it seems unnatural, and is always perplexing; and for a new edition we would recommend the propriety of turning it about, and of commencing at the beginning.

3. *Chronica de Macao.* The first number of this periodical, a semimonthly newspaper, was published at Macao, October 12th, 1834. "We have chosen this day," says the editor, in his introductory remarks, "for the publication of the first number of our periodical, because it is the anniversary of the birth of his imperial highness, Dom Pedro de Alcantara, duke of Bragança. The name of this illustrious prince will last forever, for the love with which he has governed his people, the firmness of his character, for his illustrious actions, and above all, for his disinterestedness, and the contempt for crowns which he has manifested. Within a short time he has abdicated two; one in 1826, in favor of his august daughter, our present queen Donna Maria II; and another in 1831, in favor of his august son, senhor Dom Pedro II. present emperor of Brazil. May God grant him long life, for the happiness of the realms governed by his august children! This is the highest eulogium which our ill-trimmed pen can pay him." This loyal and patriotic spirit augurs well. We wish the editor and his coadjutors all good success in their laudable and well-timed undertaking.—It is said that the Spaniards will follow this example; and that under the auspices of the new governor of Luçonia, a periodical will soon be forthcoming from Manila.

ART. VIII. *Journal of occurrences; new regulations for the port of Canton; cannon foundry; release of the outside merchants; and insurrection in Szechuen.*

Monday, March 9th. Their excellencies the governor, fooyuen, and hoppo of Canton have framed a new code of regulations for the purpose of restraining and keeping in order the barbarians trading at this port. A copy of these, has been sent up to Peking, that they may receive the imperial sanction.

A *cannon foundry* has recently been established on the military ground, east of the provincial city, under the direction of governor Loo. It is said that two or three hundred "great guns" are to be cast, and some of them of a large calibre, designed for new forts which are to be built at the Bogue.

Saturday, the 21st. *Release of the outside merchants.* Four of these men who were imprisoned several months ago, have been released to-day; and it is now understood that the others, together with the linguists and pilot, will be set at liberty in the course of a few days. We have heard many reports, and seen some official statements, relative to their imprisonment and release; some of these we shall endeavor to lay before our readers in our next number.

Tuesday, the 24th. *Insurrection in Szechuen.* A report is current in Canton that an insurrection has broken out in Szechuen. This commenced, according to the report, near the close of last year. It was occasioned by the extortions of the civil magistrates; and the military officers were the first to resent the indignities. Concerning the extent of the insurrection we have no particulars.

